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The Importance of Dedicated Nurse Navigation for PRRT Therapy



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BACKGROUND: Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy is accompanied by complex clinical and navigational patient needs, as well as complex inter-departmental preparation for each therapy. To address these concerns, we developed a PRRT Nurse Navigator position to provide a cohesive solution to addressing the multifaceted clinical and operational processes associated with PRRT.

METHODS: The PRRT Nurse Navigator provides ambulatory support to each patient throughout the timeline of therapy, including symptom triage and multidisciplinary coordination. The RN provides dedicated education throughout the continuum of therapy, including treatment mechanism of action, Radiation Safety fundamentals, and side effects monitoring. The RN bridges care, providing both remote care and in-person guidance on day-of-therapy.

The PRRT RN also provides operational support throughout inter-departmental preparation of therapy. This includes Nuclear Medicine, Specialty Pharmacy, Clinical Nursing, Radiation Safety, Molecular Imaging, Environmental Health & Safety and House Keeping.

RESULTS: Patients receive formal education by the RN and an individualized treatment schedule to outline all therapies, scans, SSA, lab timelines, and provider appointments. The PRRT Nurse Navigator provide active communication throughout all stages of care. This encompasses new patient navigation, pre-treatment, inter-treatment, post-treatment, and multidisciplinary transitions.

The PRRT RN also preforms active communication with involved departments prior to treatment dates, and visits the treatment site to ensure preparedness. The PRRT RN physically oversees flow throughout each treatment date, and fields concerns.

CONCLUSION: Having a dedicated PRRT Nurse Navigator has been pivotal in closely assisting and assessing patients throughout their complex treatment regimens. This dedicated position improves patient satisfaction, compliance with timely interventions, compliance, and oversight of the PRRT preparatory processes.

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