

Children's Mercy Kansas City

SHARE @ Children's Mercy

Research Days

GME Research Days 2024

May 16th, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Increasing Palliative Care Team Involvement in Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Patients

Meagan Vacek

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Lisa Tarbell

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Melissa List

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Erin Hall

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Jennifer Linebarger

Children's Mercy Kansas City

See next page for additional authors

Let us know how access to this publication benefits you

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlyexchange.childrensmercy.org/researchdays>



Part of the [Hemic and Lymphatic Diseases Commons](#), [Oncology Commons](#), [Palliative Care Commons](#), [Pediatrics Commons](#), and the [Quality Improvement Commons](#)

Vacek, Meagan; Tarbell, Lisa; List, Melissa; Hall, Erin; Linebarger, Jennifer; Ellis, Kelstan; Jones, Gina; and Thompson, Joel, "Increasing Palliative Care Team Involvement in Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Patients" (2024). *Research Days*. 5.

https://scholarlyexchange.childrensmercy.org/researchdays/GME_Research_Days_2024/ResearchDay4/5

This Poster Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Events at SHARE @ Children's Mercy. It has been accepted for inclusion in Research Days by an authorized administrator of SHARE @ Children's Mercy. For more information, please contact hlsteel@cmh.edu.

Authors

Meagan Vacek, Lisa Tarbell, Melissa List, Erin Hall, Jennifer Linebarger, Kelstan Ellis, Gina Jones, and Joel Thompson

Increasing Palliative Care Team Involvement in Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Patients

Meagan Vacek DO, Lisa Tarbell APRN, Melissa List APRN, Erin Hall MD, Jennifer Linebarger MD, MPH, Kelstan Ellis DO, MS-CR, Gina Jones DO, Joel Thompson MD

Children's Mercy Kansas City

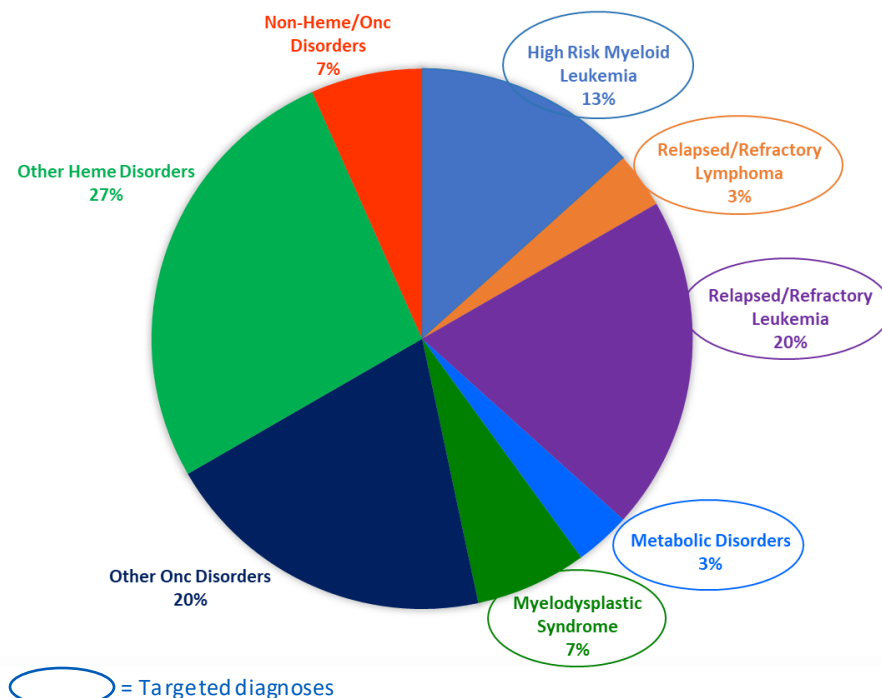
Introduction

- Palliative care facilitates communication, helps with physical and psychological symptom management, and assists in goals of care and advanced care planning conversations.
- Multiple organizations including the World Health Organization, American Academy of Pediatrics and American Society of Clinical Oncology encourage early palliative care involvement.
- Palliative care involvement with hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) patients has been shown to be beneficial as HSCT is associated with a high degree of morbidity and possible mortality.

Aim

- Baseline data revealed 48 patients underwent HSCT from July 2020 to July 2022, 25 of whom had a targeted diagnosis (see Methods). The Palliative Care Team (PaCT) was consulted on 12 of the 25 patients (48%).
- The aim was to increase the number of PaCT consults for patients receiving HSCT for our targeted diagnoses from 48% to 75% by December 2023.

HSCT PERFORMED FROM JAN 2023 TO DEC 2023:
ALL DIAGNOSES



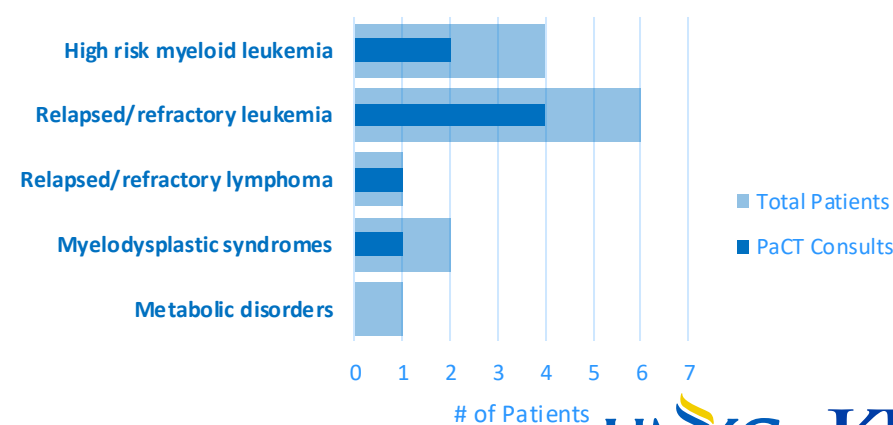
Methods

- Chart review of patients who received HSCT from July 2020 to July 2022
- A targeted diagnosis list was compiled based on which patients were felt to benefit most from palliative care involvement
 - Relapsed or refractory leukemia (ALL, AML, MPAL)
 - Relapsed or refractory lymphoma
 - Myelodysplastic syndrome
 - High risk myeloid leukemias
 - Metabolic disorders
- PDSA Cycle #1 - discussion of the project at division meetings, posting flyers in workrooms and education regarding palliative care and evidence of their involvement in HSCT patients.
- PDSA Cycle #2 - revision of the HSCT referral form to include "Is PaCT consulted?" If the answer was "no," further information was requested. This intervention coincided with PaCT beginning to attend the weekly transplant team meetings to discuss current/upcoming patients.

Methods

- From 1/1/23 to 12/30/23, 30 patients received a HSCT, 14 of whom had a targeted diagnosis. Eight of the 14 patients (57%) had a PaCT consult.
- In total, PaCT met 23 of 46 patients (50%) who received a HSCT since Jan 2023, compared to 20 of 48 patients (42%) who received a HSCT during the chart review period.

Palliative Care Consults per Targeted Diagnosis in 2023



Conclusions

- As HSCT patients receive more intensive therapy, have frequent deaths in intensive care units and can have limited opportunity for end of life planning due to rapidly changing clinical courses, early integration of palliative care could allow for decreased symptom burden and distress for both patients and families.
- Future PDSA cycles
 - Review HSCT referral forms to identify possible barriers to PaCT consultation
 - Add PaCT consultation to the HSCT evaluation order set in the EMR
- Though we did not meet our goal for targeted diagnoses, PaCT has become increasingly involved in patients receiving HSCT.
- The long-term goal of this QI project is to make a PaCT consultation standard of care for all HSCT patients.

Palliative Care Consults for all HSCT patients in 2023-2024

