Enabling Resources for Treatment Decisions in Prostate Cancer Survivors: Findings from the Prostate Cancer Registry

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PURPOSE

- An estimated 35,430 cases of prostate cancer are expected to be newly diagnosed among African-American men in 2015, accounting for 37% of all cancers diagnosed.
- It is estimated that 1 in 5 African-American men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime.
- The overall 5-year relative survival rate for prostate cancer among African Americans is 96%, compared to nearly 100% among whites.
- Prostate cancer patients are living longer and are confronted with increasingly complex therapeutic decisions.
- Frequently, patients are not fully prepared to discuss the possible treatment options effectively with their provider.

DESIGN METHODS

- The Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development (CCRTD) at Clark Atlanta University (CAU) established the Prostate Cancer Registry an online registry www.pcregistry.cau.edu.
- The online self-reported registry is designed to provide prostate cancer survivors a unified voice to advance the understanding and challenges that universally affect survivors.
- Registrants were recruited through an outreach program that included the CCRTD, community-based affiliates, online communities, other advocacy organizations, & social and other media channels.
- In, 2015 close to 200 prostate cancer survivors completed the survey about their epidemiological profile, clinical disease information and data regarding their experiences throughout their prostate cancer continuum.

RESULTS

Sample Characteristics

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>59% White or Caucasian</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>36% Black or African American</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insured</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Household Income:</td>
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<tr>
<td>25% $50K-74K</td>
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<td>14% $75K - $99K</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How knowledgeable were you about your treatment options prior to making your treatment decisions?

- 29% Very Much
- 18% Quite A Bit
- 18% Somewhat
- 11% A Little Bit
- 14% Not At All

Treatment Decision Making

Did you receive any of the following information from your healthcare team prior to making your treatment decisions?

- Yes
- No
- I Don’t Know

- Your Diagnosis: 80%
- Clinical Trials: 60%
- Treatment Choices: 40%

How much time do you feel you had to make a treatment decision?

- Not Enough: 9%
- Just Enough: 42%
- More Than Enough: 38%

Would you have liked more support prior to making your treatment decisions?

- Yes: 44%
- No: 44%
- I Don’t Know: 12%

Conclusions

- Although the majority of the sample were satisfied with various aspects of treatment decision-making, including communication about treatment decisions with their healthcare team, more than half of the prostate cancer patients did not have a member of their healthcare team speak to them about cancer clinical trials.
- While most survivors reported receiving information about their treatment options, half of these individuals reported that they would have liked more support prior to making treatment decisions.
- Further efforts need to address gaps in the delivery of treatment decision support to prostate cancer patients.

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