

Objectives: Postoperative ileus is a common complication after gynecologic oncology laparotomies. It impacts patient satisfaction and comfort and increases costs to our healthcare system by prolonging length of stay and readmissions. Patient reported flatus has been used as a criterion to avoid premature discharge but may prolong hospital stay unnecessarily in a subset of patients. The aims of our study were to: 1) identify predictive factors that lead to the development of a postoperative ileus and 2) create a nomogram to predict the risk of developing an ileus so postoperative care can be modified appropriately.

Methods: From October 2016 to August 2017, 234 patients were identified who had an exploratory laparotomy by a gynecologic oncologist after implementation of an Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) protocol at a single institution. Data was collected through the ERAS monitoring program and supplemented with individual chart review. Any patients undergoing surgery for a bowel obstruction were excluded. An ileus was diagnosed either by the surgeon as documented in the chart or if the patient met 2 of the 3 following postoperative criteria: 1) nausea or vomiting 2) abdominal distention and 3) radiologic confirmation of an ileus. Univariable logistic regression analysis was conducted to identify any variables associated with a postoperative ileus. Those variables with a p-value < 0.10 or those deemed clinically significant regardless of p-value were included in the multivariable analysis. A backward stepwise model was then performed to reach the final model that was the basis of the nomogram created to predict the risk of developing a postoperative ileus.

Results: Of the cases reviewed, 219 met inclusion, including 142 (64.8%) cases with malignancy on final pathology. Thirty-six (16.4%) patients developed a postoperative ileus. Those with and without ileus were compared. Sociodemographics were similar between the two groups except those who developed an ileus had a higher rate of smoking, 61.1% (22/36) vs. 42.1% (77/183) and a higher ASA Score, 2.8 vs. 2.6 (p=0.03 and p=0.01 respectively). Significant intraoperative and postoperative factors on univariable analysis included age, estimated blood loss and development of a postoperative venous thromboembolism or urinary tract infection (p < 0.10). Smoking history (p=0.02) was the only independent predictive factor for postoperative ileus on multivariable analysis.

Conclusions: The rate of postoperative ileus development in patients undergoing gynecologic oncologic laparotomies was 16%, which is in line with previous literature. Smoking history was the only significant independent predictive factor. A nomogram was devised with the intent to predict postoperative ileus. We intend for this nomogram to be tested and validated in future studies with the goal of identifying patients appropriate for discharge prior to flatus.

doi:10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.03.139

Poster #35

Counseling and documentation for modifiable cervical cancer risk factors: Quality improvement leading to increased reimbursement

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Objectives: This quality improvement (QI) study aimed to correct shortcomings in documentation of cervical dysplasia risk factors at clinic visits and implement new note templates to improve counseling for modifiable risk factors, as well as reimbursement rates.

Methods: Data was collected at all cervical dysplasia procedure visits from 4/13- 8/10/18 (n=187), and after 6/28/2018, a new note template was introduced with documentation of various risk factors including smoking and HPV vaccination status, and counseling on

their contribution to the development of cervical cancer. Data was analyzed using a two-tailed students t-test. Reimbursement of tobacco cessation counseling was defined as \$9.43 by current procedural terminology (CPT) code 99406 with modifier 25. Reimbursement of HPV vaccination was defined as \$10.00 by CPT code 90649.

Results: Study populations before and after the intervention were not significantly different in median age, procedure type, and dysplasia pathology. Instituting a new note template significantly increased the rate of documentation of all targeted risk factors. Prior to implementation of the QI study, 89% of opportunities to counsel on smoking cessation were missed, compared to 6% after implementation (Table 1). This correlates to missed revenue of over \$3800 annually. Prior to implementation of the QI study, 12% of dysplasia encounters included documentation of HPV vaccination status, versus 98% after implementation. Of these, 37.5% received counseling pre-QI and 78.5% received counseling post-QI. Similar percentage of patients were eligible for vaccination, 12.7% pre-QI and 16.5% post-QI. This correlates to \$76 annually in clinic revenue.

Table 1

Documentation of cervical dysplasia risk factors and counseling provided to patients at each visit before and after the implementation of the quality improvement (QI) note template.

		Pre-QI	Post-QI	p-value	
Risk Factor Documentation	Contraception	70.6%	96.5%	<0.001	T4.5
	History of STI	52.9%	97.65%	<0.001	T4.6
	Smoking status	67.7%	97.65%	<0.001	T4.8
	Vaccination status	11.8%	97.65%	<0.001	T4.9
Counseling provided	HIV status	1.3%	89.41%	<0.001	T4.10
	Smoking cessation	11.11%	93.55%	<0.001	T4.11
	HPV vaccination for patients ≤ age 26	37.50%	78.57%	0.058	T4.12
					T4.13

Conclusions: The intervention significantly improved documentation of risk factors and rate of smoking cessation counseling. This also increased an area for reimbursement through smoking cessation counseling. While HPV vaccination is not a large source of income, the template prompts providers to offer vaccination and to counsel on the importance of vaccination for the young people in our patients' lives.

doi:10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.03.140

Poster #36

Minimally invasive surgery rate as a quality metric: Feasibility and validity

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Objectives: Minimally invasive surgery (MIS) is a quality metric for endometrial cancer (EC) established by the Society of Gynecologic Oncology. A hospital-level rate of 80% MIS hysterectomy for EC has been proposed. Our study objectives were (1) to determine the frequency with which Commission on Cancer accredited hospitals met this metric and (2) to compare patient characteristics, patterns of care, and outcomes by hospitals meeting or not meeting this metric.

Methods: A retrospective study of women who underwent hysterectomy for EC in 2015 was conducted using the National Cancer Database (NCDB). Inclusion criteria were epithelial histology, Charleston comorbidity score of 0, stage I-III disease, and surgery at a hospital caring for ≥20 EC patients per year. Patient characteristics,

patterns of care, and outcomes were compared between centers performing $\geq 80\%$ of hysterectomies by MIS (high MIS) and centers not meeting this quality metric (low MIS). Bivariable tests were used to examine associations.

Results: 510 hospitals treated 20,671 women with EC; 283 (55%) were high MIS hospitals. Annual hospital volume was similar with a median of 54 patients per hospital for both high and low MIS hospitals. In high MIS hospitals, patients were more likely to be white race (88% v 83%), have private insurance (53% v 49%), and have a median household income $> \$38,000/\text{yr}$ (88% v 83%, all $p < 0.001$). These patients were more likely to have stage 1 disease (84% v 82% $p = 0.002$) and endometrioid histology (79% v 76% $p < 0.001$). In high MIS hospitals, MIS was more often performed robotically (80% v 71%) and conversion to laparotomy was less common (1.5% v 3.2%, all $p < 0.001$). Patients treated at high MIS hospitals were more likely to have lymph node assessment (76% v 69%), to have a same or next day discharge (77% vs 59%), and less likely to have an unplanned 30-day hospital readmission (1.8% v 2.9%, all $p < 0.001$).

Conclusions: Achieving an 80% hospital-level rate of MIS for EC is feasible; 55% of identified hospitals met this target in 2015. Patients treated at high MIS centers had shorter lengths of stay, lower rates of readmission, higher rates of lymph node assessment, and were more likely to undergo a robotic procedure. An MIS rate of 80% for surgical management of EC is feasible and associated with other hospital-level measurements of high-quality care.

doi:10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.03.141

Poster #37

Aromatase inhibitor use, side-effects and discontinuation rates in gynecologic oncology patients

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Objectives: Aromatase inhibitors (AI) are being prescribed with increasing frequency for gynecologic oncology patients. In breast cancer, 50–80% of patients experience AI side-effects leading to a 24% discontinuation rate. In contrast, little is known about AI use in gynecologic cancers. We therefore sought to determine the frequency and duration of AI use, frequency of AI side-effects, and the reason for discontinuation in gynecologic oncology patients. We hypothesized that despite frequent side-effects in these women, discontinuation rates would be low due to the severity of the cancer diagnosis.

Methods: This is a retrospective chart review (IRB#HUM00152085). All endometrial/uterine/ovarian gynecologic cancer patient charts at our institution from 1998 to 2018 were screened for AI use with an electronic medical record search engine (EMERSE) with the search terms Aromasin/exemestane, Arimidex/anastrozole, Femara/letrozole. Patient charts with an AI identified were individually reviewed and data abstracted, including gynecologic cancer type, stage, prior cancer treatments, body mass index, prevalence of AI side-effects before and during AI therapy, length of AI treatment, medications used in conjunction with AI treatment, and reason for AI discontinuation.

Results: A total of 3,294 patients had the queried cancers, of which 312 patients had an AI listed in their chart. Upon chart review, 146 women received AI therapy specifically for their gynecologic cancer, including 68 for ovarian cancer (46.6%) and 78 for uterine/endometrial cancer (53.4%). The majority (71.9%) of patients had advanced stage disease. The initially prescribed AI was letrozole for 74 patients (50.7%), anastrozole for 65 patients (44.5%), and exemestane for 7 patients (4.8%). Seventy-nine patients (54.1%) noted significant side-effects within the first three visits after starting AI therapy. The most common side-effects were arthralgias or joint pain (29.5%), hot flashes (25.3%),

new/worsening fatigue (16.4%), muscle or joint stiffness (8.2%), and myalgias (6.8%). The mean duration of therapy was 14.7 months (range 1–130 months, standard deviation 19.3 months). Among women who have discontinued AI therapy, the most common reason was disease progression (87 patients, 87.9%), while five women (5.1%) discontinued due to intolerable medication side-effects and seven women (7%) discontinued for other reasons.

Conclusions: Aromatase inhibitor therapy for gynecologic cancers is frequently associated with musculoskeletal side-effects, but rarely leads to treatment discontinuation. Arthralgias, hot flashes, fatigue, and myalgias were the most common adverse symptoms experienced with AI treatment. Given our findings, future directions include the development of interventions to address these symptoms, with the goal of improving quality of life for these patients.

doi:10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.03.142

Poster #38

Intraoperative assessment of bowel anastomosis at the time of debulking surgery for gynecologic malignancies to reduce temporary bowel diversion

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Objectives: In previously published research we demonstrated that use of strict criteria for temporary diversion decreases the risk of anastomotic leak (AL) at the time of rectosigmoid resection (RSR). Our next objective is to reduce the need for temporary bowel diversion after RSR by incorporating intraoperative assessment of bowel perfusion while maintaining low rate of anastomotic leak (AL).

Methods: This was a prospective quality improvement project in patients undergoing RSR during debulking surgery for ovarian cancer between November 2016 and May 2018. All patients underwent intraoperative fluorescent imaging to enhance the assessment of perfusion at the anastomotic site: the site of anastomosis was altered in cases of poor perfusion. Criteria for temporary bowel diversion were as follows: 1. Preoperative albumin $\leq 3.0\text{g/dL}$, 2. Prior pelvic radiation, 3. Anastomosis (AS) $\leq 6\text{cm}$ from the anal verge, 4. Leak at the time of proctoscopy and revision not possible. Anastomotic leak and diversion rates were compared to the prior cohort in which multiple large bowel resections required diversion and no intraoperative imaging was performed.

Results: Thirty-three patients underwent RSR during study period. Protocol compliance was excellent with 32/33 (97%) of patients undergoing intraoperative fluorescent imaging and 28/33 (84.8%) having a documented leak test. The rate of temporary diversion was decreased 31% when compared to the prior protocol, though small numbers reduced statistical power (27.3% vs. 39.1%, $p = 0.271$). Importantly, we observed no postoperative AL compared to 2/64 (3.1%) historically ($P = 0.546$). Indications for diversion in the current study were: prior radiation ($n = 2$), failed leak test ($n = 1$), and low anastomosis $< 6\text{ cm}$ ($n = 5$). (If patients with prior history of radiation were excluded, the rate of diversion was 22%). In comparison, the most common indication for temporary diversion in the prior cohort was more than one large bowel resection and surgeon preference.

Conclusions: Strict criteria for use of temporary bowel diversion can reduce the rate of AL: when combined with our prior study we have only experienced 2 AL in the past 97 RSR cases. By incorporating intraoperative fluorescence imaging to assess AL perfusion we have significantly reduced our diversion rate without increasing AL rate.

doi:10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.03.143