Prostate Cancer Disease Pathway Management
Priorities for Action Summary

Cancer Care Ontario’s Disease Pathway Management (DPM) is an innovative approach examining the cancer journey from start to finish for a specific disease site (i.e., prostate cancer, lung cancer, colorectal cancer, etc.). The patient journey differs from one type of cancer to another; pathways show a high-level overview of the care a patient in Ontario should receive for a specific cancer during a specific phase of the journey. The purpose of DPM is to improve quality of care, processes and the patient experience.

Since November 2010, DPM program has been working with a multidisciplinary group of internal and external stakeholders, as well as patients and caregivers to identify the key priorities for action across the prostate cancer patient journey. This approach used an iterative and criteria-guided process, resulting in the following six Priorities for Action that will guide future work within Prostate DPM and Cancer Care Ontario.

- Systematic data collection allowing risk stratification of prostate cancer cases for the purposes of evaluating patterns of care, measuring relevant outcomes, and for planning of future cancer services.
- Consistent access for patients to high-quality, reliable information regarding treatment options.
- Consistent access for treatment providers to high quality information to support decision-making.
- Consistent and evaluable patterns of practice for Active Surveillance as a treatment option for low-risk prostate cancer patients.
- Systematic collection of high-quality outcome data regarding disease-related outcomes and adverse effects of treatment.
- Consistent access to high-quality symptom management and high-quality psychosocial support.

Regional engagement sessions will be held in each LHIN in spring 2013 to engage the Ontario cancer community. These sessions will provide a high-level overview of Prostate DPM and the work done to date, share select region-specific data for each phase of the prostate cancer patient journey, and guide local and regional collaboration to identify measurable improvement ideas.

Measurement of regional performance and the impact of DPM will also begin in 2013 through the use of new and existing indicators relating to the prostate cancer journey.

We believe these priorities will continue to drive the work of Prostate DPM to improve the quality of care for prostate cancer patients in Ontario.

For detailed information, please refer to the Prostate Cancer Disease Pathway Management Priorities for Action Report.