

Title:

Assessing Interprofessional Challenges in the Field of Oncology: An Approach to Identifying Performance and Educational Needs of Healthcare Teams in Communication and Collaboration

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Objectives:

A national needs assessment of Canadian healthcare providers caring for patients with breast and colorectal cancer was designed and carried out. Through the use of a mixed-method analysis, and through triangulation approaches that included the viewpoints of patients and caregivers, interprofessional gaps and barriers that could be addressed through the development of targeted physician education and professional development were identified.

Key Points:

Findings revealed a disconnect amongst providers, that contribute to a non-optimal patient flow through the continuum of care. Results from this study provide not only directions for solutions through continuing education, but also directions on how to assess and address interprofessional issues as part of a more comprehensive needs assessment.