PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Complementary Medicine Education for Oncology Professionals in Alberta: Evaluation of an online program

The purpose of this document is to provide you with further information about the current research study. If you are unsure or need further clarification feel free to contact the researchers.

Research Team:

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Purpose of the Study

There is an increase in the use of complementary therapies (CTs) among cancer patients and survivors across North America, including within Alberta. There is growing research that identifies the benefit of CTs during cancer treatment however patients are not routinely educated about or referred for these treatments. Indeed many Health Care Professionals (HCPs) lack knowledge about the benefit of CT.

In order to increase knowledge and raise awareness of CTs in cancer care, this study will provide an online training program for HCPs that comprises 3 online self-paced education modules, completed on your own computer at home. You will complete questionnaires before and after the online program to help determine whether the program was effective at increasing your knowledge, clinical skills and confidence talking to your patients about complementary medicine.

Participant Eligibility and Involvement

All cancer clinicians, oncology residents, medical students and other HCPs, including nursing and allied health practitioners affiliated with the Tom Baker Cancer Center (TBCC) and University of Calgary are invited to participate. We are hoping to recruit at least 50 participants in this study.

When you complete the initial questionnaire will comply your consent to participate in the research study. You will then be provided access to the 3-lesson online educational program. Each module may take about 30 - 60 minutes and you can undertake each lesson when and where you like. After the third module you will complete a follow-up survey and may also be requested to participate in an individual interview.

Informed Consent and Confidentiality

By registering for this program online you confirm that you are aware of the research nature of the project and you agree to participate voluntarily and freely and are aware that you can withdraw at any time without prejudice. Your registration and completion of the baseline survey is agreement that you have provided the research team with informed consent.

All information provided by you will be treated with full confidentiality. The information and data gathered from you during the study will be used to answer the research question of this study and will only be accessible to the research team. Data collected will be stored in a password-protected computer and is only available to the researchers. Hard copy data (paper etc.) will only be kept in the researcher's office and locked in a specific drawer/filing cabinet at the Holy Cross Centre. All data will be stored according to ethics board regulations following the completion of the study.

Research Ethics

This study has been approved by the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (Ethics ID REB 13-1366). If you would like any further details please call Gregory Levin (study coordinator) on (403) 476 2455 before registering.