RO-ILS: Safety culture and tuning up the clinic

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Slides modified from Bill Salter, PhD
Program Update

- Established program 9 years.
- Practices can be comprised of one or more facilities.
- 850+ facilities enrolled.
- ~35% of U.S. facilities are enrolled.
- 32,000+ events have been reported to the PSO.

As of September 1, 2023
Background

**Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (PSQIA)**

- Congress recognized the need to collect patient safety data in a protected space.

**Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs)**

- Entity with expertise in patient safety authorized to work with providers under the protections of PSQIA.
Privilege and Confidential Information

• Patient Safety Work Product (PSWP)*

• Privilege and Confidentiality
  1. Cannot be used for litigation.
  2. Cannot be used in disciplinary proceedings.
  3. Cannot be used as evidence in a legal proceeding.

Sole purpose must be for quality and safety learning!

*Disclaimer – High level summary
ILS Impact on Safety Culture

• Having an “incident” learning system (ILS) has a significant impact on how radiation therapists perceive safety

  • 1,500 randomly selected RTTs
  • 702 respondents in 48 states
  • “Patient Safety Grade” Excellent or Very Good strongly linked to use of an incident learning system (OR : 2.0)

D Hashemi, et al. Radiation therapist (RT) perceptions and practices related to safety culture (SC) and error reporting in radiation oncology. Journal of Clinical Oncology, 2017; 35:8_suppl.42-42
Safety Culture and Adverse Events

- Favorable patient safety culture is associated with fewer adverse events in hospitals.

  - 7 of the 15 safety culture variables were related to increased in-patient adverse events (statistically significant).
  - Moderate effect size (-0.15 to -0.41) for all variables.

Virtuous Cycle

Collect safety data.

Identify and address error pathways.

Educate the clinic.

Reduce adverse events.

Promote safety culture.
Become a CHAMPION OF SAFETY!

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The mission of RO-ILS is to facilitate safer and higher quality care in radiation oncology by providing a mechanism for shared learning in a secure and non-punitive environment.