

Development of a Patient Reported Outcome Measure for Advanced Ovarian Cancer Patients Receiving Surgical and Chemotherapy Treatment

Emily Harris¹, Dr Sally Taylor^{1, 2}, Kate Law², Ashleigh Ward¹, Professor Janelle Yorke^{1, 2*}, Mr Brett Winter-Roach^{3*}

¹ Christie Patient Centred Research, School of Oncology, The Christie NHS Foundation, UK ² Division of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, School of Health, University of Manchester, UK ³ Department of Gynaecology, Clinical Support and Specialist Surgery, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, UK, *Joint Senior Authors. For more information please contact sally.taylor38@nhs.net or emily.harris36@nhs.net

Background

- There are two main primary treatment options for advanced ovarian cancer: upfront surgery followed by chemotherapy or interval debulking surgery delivered in the middle of chemotherapy.
- RCTs show similar progression-free survival and overall survival rates in both treatment options.
- More research is needed to explore how the different treatment options impact quality of life.
- Patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) capture the patient experience from their perspective and provide a greater clinical understanding of the treatment burden.
- Existing PROMs for ovarian cancer focus primarily on the impact of chemotherapy.
- A surgical specific PROM can aid the clinical understanding of ovarian cancer treatment pathways.

Aim: To develop a valid and reliable PROM for specifically investigating the experience of surgery for advanced ovarian cancer patients receiving combined surgery and chemotherapy.

Methods

CURRENT STAGE

STAGE 1: Item generation

Semi-structured telephone interviews exploring patient experience were conducted. Qualitative thematic analysis was used to generate items for surgical PROM from symptoms and quality of life domains mentioned.
N = 20 patients

STAGE 2: Cognitive interviews
N = 7 patients

STAGE 3: Item reduction and refinement
N = 150 patients

STAGE 4: Pilot Testing
N = 10 patients

Preliminary Results

"At first, I rejected [the stoma], seriously I didn't want to know... there's been a few teething problems obviously I'm not making it sound wonderful, but I feel like I'm getting there with it".

"My legs had swollen up, I couldn't move, I was being sick... I couldn't do anything for myself, all your dignity goes."

"The hernia...is now affecting things like I'm not able to bend down properly with it, it's uncomfortable all the time, it affects my sleep."

Emerging Themes

- Hospital experience
- Support from family and friends
- Attitude towards recovery
- Side effects of surgery
- Impact of chemotherapy on quality of life
- Psychological impact of diagnosis
- Preconceptions of surgery
- Impact on body image
- Communication with clinical team
- Symptom management

Conclusion and Implications

- Patients discussed the changes in their social, emotional, sexual and physical quality of life. Specific surgical symptoms and side effects (hernia development; stoma management) as well as recovery experiences mentioned support the need for a new PROM.
- A future surgical PROM can aid clinicians when making treatment decisions and can be used to compare and improve the experiences of primary and interval debulking surgery.
- This study is the first collaboration between the Christie Gynaecological Surgical team and the Christie Patient Centred Research team. We hope to explore more options for expanding surgical patient centred research at The Christie in the future.