Patient concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic: lessons from the lung cancer (LC) community

Janet Freeman-Daily
The ROS1ders
Disclosures

I have no disclosures related to this presentation
Why survey LC patients & caregiver about their COVID-19 concerns?

• LC patients fear they are at high risk for severe COVID-19 (based on news articles)
• Needs Assessment: LC patient advocacy groups (PAGs) want to address any needs that may arise
• Domains for questions
  – General information about COVID-19
  – What if I get COVID-19
  – COVID-19 impact on LC Care
• 83 participants, most with metastatic LC, half older than 60 years
## General Information about COVID-19

### How will I know when it's safe to return to routine activities?

- Not at all concerned: 4%
- A little concerned: 15%
- Somewhat concerned: 30%
- Very concerned: 50%

### Family members who are at high risk of severe COVID-19 or are essential workers

- Not at all concerned: 11%
- A little concerned: 21%
- Somewhat concerned: 29%
- Very concerned: 33%

### How to reduce risk of infection (shelter at home, disinfection of surfaces, social distancing, community transmission, masks, ....)

- Not at all concerned: 13%
- A little concerned: 12%
- Somewhat concerned: 40%
- Very concerned: 30%

### Symptoms of COVID-19, and how it affects the body

- Not at all concerned: 7%
- A little concerned: 22%
- Somewhat concerned: 38%
- Very concerned: 30%

### How to find reliable, understandable information

- Not at all concerned: 16%
- A little concerned: 19%
- Somewhat concerned: 33%
- Very concerned: 20%

### Emotional challenges of life in the era of COVID-19

- Not at all concerned: 14%
- A little concerned: 31%
- Somewhat concerned: 35%
- Very concerned: 17%
- Extremely concerned: 10%

### Origins of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19)

- Not at all concerned: 27%
- A little concerned: 30%
- Somewhat concerned: 16%
- Very concerned: 10%

### Stress or anxiety about COVID-19 is affecting my sleep or quality of life

- Not at all concerned: 27%
- A little concerned: 32%
- Somewhat concerned: 17%
- Very concerned: 9%
If I get COVID-19

- Treatment or vaccines for COVID-19
  - 4% Not at all concerned
  - 12% A little concerned
  - 30% Somewhat concerned
  - 52% Very concerned
  - 2% Extremely concerned

- What aspects of lung cancer put a patient at greater risk of a severe case of COVID-19
  - 2% Not at all concerned
  - 12% A little concerned
  - 31% Somewhat concerned
  - 52% Very concerned
  - 6% Extremely concerned

- What we know about developing immunity to COVID-19
  - 6% Not at all concerned
  - 16% A little concerned
  - 37% Somewhat concerned
  - 40% Very concerned
  - 7% Extremely concerned

- Tests to identify an active case of COVID-19, or if patient has recovered from it
  - 12% Not at all concerned
  - 37% A little concerned
  - 23% Somewhat concerned
  - 22% Very concerned
  - 12% Extremely concerned

- What to do if you suspect you have or had COVID-19
  - 19% Not at all concerned
  - 23% A little concerned
  - 10% Somewhat concerned
  - 20% Very concerned
  - 12% Extremely concerned

- Not sure if I can or should continue my cancer care while I have COVID-19
  - 24% Not at all concerned
  - 28% A little concerned
  - 23% Somewhat concerned
  - 10% Very concerned
  - 10% Extremely concerned

- Do not know how I or my doctor can participate in a COVID-19 registry or research
  - 24% Not at all concerned
  - 27% A little concerned
  - 15% Somewhat concerned
  - 9% Very concerned
  - 10% Extremely concerned

- Preparing legal documents in anticipation of COVID-19
  - 24% Not at all concerned
  - 27% A little concerned
  - 15% Somewhat concerned
  - 10% Very concerned
  - 9% Extremely concerned
### COVID-19 Impact on Lung Cancer Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>A little concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat concerned</th>
<th>Very concerned</th>
<th>Extremely concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pandemic could delay or terminate some lung cancer research</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If COVID-19 limits resources at a hospital, a lung cancer patient might be refused treatment</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My preferred clinical trial could stop enrolling or close</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My lung cancer diagnosis, treatment, or follow-up care may be delayed or canceled</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have no say in decisions on how COVID-19 affects my cancer care</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My lung cancer care facility is in a COVID-19 hotspot</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losing my job and/or health insurance due to COVID-19</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telehealth could limit access to or quality of my lung cancer care</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t connect with my healthcare provider in a timely manner</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **An AACR Virtual Meeting**
- **COVID-19 AND CANCER**
  July 20-22, 2020 | #AACRCOVID | AACR.org
Younger (≤60 yrs) participants have different concerns

Can't connect with my healthcare provider in a timely manner

61 years and more
- Not at all concerned: 30%
- A little concerned: 25%
- Somewhat concerned: 25%
- Very concerned: 10%
- Extremely concerned: 0%

60 years and less
- Not at all concerned: 59%
- A little concerned: 13%
- Somewhat concerned: 15%
- Very concerned: 10%
- Extremely concerned: 0%

My lung cancer care facility is in a COVID-19 hotspot

61 years and more
- Not at all concerned: 23%
- A little concerned: 23%
- Somewhat concerned: 33%
- Very concerned: 8%
- Extremely concerned: 15%

60 years and less
- Not at all concerned: 8%
- A little concerned: 13%
- Somewhat concerned: 34%
- Very concerned: 24%
- Extremely concerned: 21%

Pandemic could delay or terminate some lung cancer research

61 years and more
- Not at all concerned: 15%
- A little concerned: 20%
- Somewhat concerned: 27%
- Very concerned: 37%

60 years and less
- Not at all concerned: 8%
- A little concerned: 31%
- Somewhat concerned: 59%

N = 39 (90 and less) and N = 42 (61 and more)
Significant difference (P<0.05) determined by ANOVA
Red box highlights group with more level of concern
Call to Action for LC PAGs and HCPs

- LC patients and caregivers want reliable info on COVID-19
  - COVID-19 testing, treatments & vaccines
  - Typical symptoms of COVID-19 & risk factors for severe cases
  - How to protect themselves and their families
  - When they can resume normal activities
  - How to ensure LC patient will receive treatment for COVID-19
  - State of lung cancer research during the pandemic

- Patient concerns can vary by age and location
- LC HCPs: Address COVID-19 concerns in appointments