



**Susan Knippel**

**DNP, APRN, FNP-C**

**Nurse Executive**

## **Implementation of Patient Reported Outcomes for Lung Cancer Survivors Treated with Surgery**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this quality improvement study is to implement a process for collection of Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) in advance of clinic appointments for lung cancer (LC) survivors treated with surgery, to enhance survivorship care.

### **BACKGROUND**

Many survivors experience short and long-term effects of their diagnosis and treatment. Surveying patients themselves can accurately assess these effects and lead to improved quality of life and survival benefits.

### **METHODOLOGY**

This six-month pilot project included a two-phase process for preparation and implementation. Key stakeholders selected a validated PROs tool for the pilot. The PROs tool was developed into an electronic version and deployed to LC survivors through the patient portal of their electronic medical record seven days before their scheduled appointment. The responses were reviewed by providers and discussed during the appointment. Implementation strategies were modified using the IHI Process Improvement Model.

### **RESULTS**

Of 61 LC survivors who received the MDASI-LC PRO tool during the implementation phase, 19 completed the survey. The project confirmed the capability of this institution to collect PROs data electronically and the resources required to assist LC survivors in tool completion.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

Pilot findings support future inclusion of all LC survivors treated with surgery starting at the initial encounter and continuing throughout the survivor process. Eventually PROs can be collected on all thoracic malignancies treated with surgery and not limited to LC survivors. PROs data can be included in an institutional database and incorporated into national databases to guide treatment and research.