Oncology Health Nursing

Scope of Practice, Standards, and Competencies

2019
The Jordanian Nursing Council

The Jordanian Nursing Council (JNC) is a national government regulatory institution for nursing and midwifery in Jordan. The JNC is governed by a board headed by Her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al Hussein as president of the council. The board is comprised of 14 key representatives of healthcare institutions and through regulating and governing the nursing profession in education, practice, and research.

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Foreword

The “national oncology health nursing framework: scope of practice, standards and competencies” is a policy document developed by the Jordanian Nursing Council (JNC) to regulate and unify the standards for the practice of oncology nurses. It includes national standards and competencies for the general and advance practice roles. The aims of this document are to standardize practice and safeguard the health and wellbeing of oncology clients. The document is a guide for academic and practice institutions; educational institutions need to transfer the content of this very important document and deal with it as a national curricula for the undergraduate and graduate education of oncology nurses to prepare them for fitness for practice roles, and create a generation that are responsive, ethically committed and supportive for the diabetic health. Oncology institutions and department/unit need to take this document as a policy umbrella for the practice of oncology health and their commitment to implement and create positive environment to allow oncology nurses to function within the agreed upon scope of practice and competencies stated in this document. Institutions need to use these competencies in finalizing job description, roles and responsibilities as a tool for performance evaluation. This document was developed with distinguished efforts from national academic and services intuitions. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all who contributed to the development of this unique document. The implementation of this document at the national level by all institution is a challenge, but we trust your good will and abilities to take it forward and present Jordan as a regional model in the maternity nursing area.

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Introduction

This document outlines the scope of practice, professional standards, and essential competencies for advanced and specialist oncology nursing practice in Jordan as developed by the Jordanian Nursing Council (JNC) and partners as part of the JNC mission to promote the health status of communities through a sound regulatory system that assures quality services and safe practices to protect the public and the profession. JNC recognizes the importance of the role of oncology nurses and is committed to strengthening oncology practice to support the quality of oncology services and ultimately protect the public.

Methodology

Oncology nursing is a dynamic specialty profession that requires constant updating and strengthening of oncology nursing practices to meet the emerging needs and challenges of oncology health issues and of the health system in general. The following standards and competencies were developed in collaboration with a national team composed of experts in universities, the Ministry of Health, the private sector, and military health sectors to develop a framework that is consistent with national regulatory mechanisms in Jordan. The outcomes are a set of standards of practice and competencies for advanced practice in oncology health.

Development of the scope of practice, standards, and competencies was based on international and regional regulatory frameworks in addition to the best possible evidence of international models and frameworks, and consultations with national oncology health nursing and oncology experts from various settings.
Purpose of the National Framework of Oncology Nursing

JNC considers the professional standards and competencies as legal guidance to protect the public by regulating nursing practice, determine the entry and re-entry level to practice, clarify educational requirements, provide nurses professional guidance, provide a framework to assess professional performance, and address incompetence among maternity nurses.

Scope of Practice

The oncology nurse plays a critical role in the delivery of quality nursing care to a high-risk and complex patient population. Oncology nurses provide care to specific populations in cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, active treatment, palliative care, and rehabilitation in conjunction with the interprofessional healthcare team.

Although individual oncology nurses may focus their practice in a particular stage of the continuum, they are prepared to provide primary, acute, and palliative care to patients with cancer and their families. Oncology nurses are clinical experts in evidence-based nursing practice within a specialty area. The specialty may be focused on a population (e.g. young people), type of care (e.g. palliative care), type of problem (e.g. lymphedema), type of treatment (e.g. chemotherapy), or tumor type (e.g. lung cancer).

In addition, oncology nurses are responsible for improving nursing practice and healthcare delivery through integrated role activities related to education, research, organizational leadership, and scholarly and professional development. The roles of oncology nurses are dynamic and are continually defined and shaped by changing patient, healthcare provider, and organizational needs unique to practice settings.

The role of the oncology nurse is to maximize, maintain, or restore patient health through improvements in nursing practice and innovation in health service delivery.
Definition of Specialized and Advanced Oncology Nurse

Oncology Nurse Specialist:
An oncology nurse specialist (ONS) requires a cancer-specific knowledge base and demonstrated clinical expertise in cancer care beyond that acquired in a basic nursing program. ONSs are clinicians, educators, and researchers who are educated at the diploma level in a program of at least six months to achieve the required competencies to provide basic oncology nursing care across healthcare settings.

Qualifications:

- Obtained a higher diploma in oncology from an accredited university or educational institution listed and recognized by JNC.
- Registered with the Jordan Nurses and Midwives Council (JNMC) and is licensed to practice under the Public Health Law.
- Passed the evaluation and test mandated by JNC according to the provisions of the bylaw on specialization.

Advanced Oncology Nurse Specialist
An Advanced Oncology Nurse Specialist (AONS) is a registered nurse who is educationally prepared to provide advanced nursing care to meet the specialized physiological and psychological needs of patients and their families who are affected by cancer throughout the continuum of care, including cancer prevention and detection, cancer diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation, survivorship, and end-of-life care. AONSs are clinicians, educators, consultants, and researchers educated at the master’s or doctoral level with the required competencies to provide continuous and comprehensive oncology nursing care across healthcare settings.
Qualifications:

- Obtained at minimum a second university degree (master’s degree) from an accredited university or educational institution in a field of specialty listed and recognized by JNC.

- Registered with JNMC and licensed according to the provisions of the Public Health Law.

- Passed the JNC-mandated evaluation and test according to the provisions of the bylaw on specialization.
JNC National Standards for Oncology Health Nurse

I. Professional Standards

Professional standards are requirements that AONSs and ONSs are expected to meet and maintain in performing their duties throughout their careers. Professional standards reflect the expectations for professional behavior. AONSs and ONSs are accountable for their professional actions to themselves, their peers, and ultimately to society. The JNC oncology professional standards cover eight main standards: 1. performance, 2. knowledge, 3. evidence-based and critical thinking, 4. therapeutic communication, 5. professional development, 6. leadership and management, 7. resource utilization, and 8. environmental

II. Practice Standards

This domain focuses on the provision of comprehensive, systematic, and prioritized oncology nursing to achieve identified health outcomes. It consists of one standard, provision of patient-centered care, and six sub-standards: 1. assessment, 2. problem identification, 3. outcome identification, 4. planning, 5. implementation and 7. evaluation.

Accordingly, the nursing process encompasses significant actions taken by an AONS and an ONS which forms the foundation of the oncology nurses’ decision-making.

In the standard of practice, the AONS and the ONS use knowledge and skills to assess, diagnose, and manage illness (symptoms and functional problems) and risk behaviors in patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis. Oncology nurses demonstrate knowledge, skills, and behavior in the design, delivery, and evaluation of innovative, cost-effective, and quality interventions for illness problems and risk behaviors amenable to nursing interventions.
Professional Standards

Standard 1: Professional Performance

AONSs and ONSs meet the professional standards of maintaining legal and ethical responsibilities, accountability, safety, and advocacy of individual and group rights.

Core Competency 1:

AONSs and ONSs practice within professional, legal, and ethical nursing contexts within all relevant national legislation; and fulfills the responsibility and accountability of palliative nursing professional activities.

Measurement Criteria:

- Adheres to legislation governing the nursing profession.
- Adheres to JNC oncology nursing standards and competencies.
- Demonstrates awareness of the oncology nursing roles and responsibilities in reducing suffering and enhancing quality of life.

Applies legal and ethical decision-making principles in planning and delivering care for people affected by cancer.

Core Competency 2:

AONSs and ONSs respect the rights of all patients and families and make decisions and design interventions that are in agreement with ethical principles.
Measurement Criteria:

• Understands and applies the basic ethical principles of autonomy (right to self-determination), beneficence (do what is in the best interest of the patient), nonmaleficence (do minimal harm), justice, and veracity (truth-telling).

• Examines personal beliefs relating to autonomy, rights of a minor, quality of life, death, suffering, truth-telling, equality, and access to care.

• Identifies available resources, including the Code of Ethics for Nurses, when formulating ethical decisions.

• Maintains patient and family confidentiality.

• Provides quality care to all patients, regardless of race, culture, educational background, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, or the ability to pay.

• Delivers care in a manner that preserves and protects patient autonomy, dignity, and rights.

• Acts as a patient advocate and assists patients and families in developing skills so they can advocate for themselves.

• Identifies ethical conflicts and seeks to resolve them through multidisciplinary team discussions, including the patient and family as appropriate.

• Addresses advance directives with young adults 18 years of age and older.

• Seeks to include minors in decision-making as appropriate.

• Ensures that all patients and families receive truth information regarding diagnosis and treatment.

• Participates in the informed consent process by witnessing the signature of consent documents, ongoing education about research trials, and answering patient’s and family’s questions regarding their participation in research and ensuring patient’s and family’s continued desire to participate in the research trial.

• Reports illegal, incompetent, impaired, or unethical practices.
• Maintains therapeutic professional nurse-patient relationship with appropriate boundaries.

• Identifies procedures and practices that invade the rights of patients (futile care).

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Instruct others and model ethical nursing practice by applying the basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice, and veracity.

• Examine personal views and help others to assess personal beliefs about autonomy, rights of minors, quality of life, death, suffering, truth-telling, equality, and access to care.

• Inform patient and families of the risks, benefits, and outcomes of healthcare regimens to promote informed decision-making.

• Participate in multidisciplinary teams that seek to resolve ethical conflicts and address risks/benefits and interests, and include the patient and family as appropriate.

• Review institutional policies and procedures relating to biomedical or organizational ethics as appropriate.

• Recognize the importance of establishing does not attempt resuscitation (DNAR) order for patients and family.

• Recognize the need to have portable orders and valid indicators of DNAR status for patients moving between facilities.

• Help the patient and family or surrogate in making their decision regarding DNAR by verifying the benefits and detriments.

• Identify ethical, legal, and religious perspectives about advance directives.
Core Competency 3:
AONSs and ONSs evaluate and participate in activities that improve the quality, safety, and effectiveness of nursing care.

Measurement Criteria:

- Adheres to national safety guidelines for clients.
- Practices in accordance with approved quality standards and guidelines reflecting recognized evidence-based best practice.
- Participates in organizational quality management processes and activities.
- Seeks evidence from a wide range of credible or reliable sources to maintain safety and high quality oncology nursing care.
- Articulates appropriate emotional and psychological responses with clients in a professional manner.
- Identifies existing procedures or policies that may be unsafe or inconsistent with best oncology practices.
- Uses incident reports for unsafe health nursing practices.
- Identifies safety issues in patient care and care delivery systems.
- Identifies, collects, and analyzes data to measure and monitor the effectiveness and outcomes of care.
- Integrates results of quality assessment and improvement activities into practice.
- Works to improve safe quality of care and advanced nursing practice throughout the work setting and the community.
- Contributes to systematic knowledge development and research related to patient’s and family’s response to care.
- Integrates results of scientific inquiry and quality assessment and improvement activities into all areas of oncology nursing practice.
• Incorporates new knowledge to improve nursing practice, care delivery systems, and patient care outcomes.

• Maintains specialized education, certification, and licensure requirements according to laws and regulations.

• Participates in and/or leads efforts to minimize costs and unnecessary duplication.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Promote the delivery of evidence-based oncology nursing practice throughout the healthcare system.

• Develop and monitor standards of care through evidence-based practice to improve the care of the patient with cancer and family in collaboration with other healthcare team members.

• Collaborate with the healthcare team to design and coordinate quality improvement activities and to formulate comprehensive plans to provide high-quality and cost-effective care.

• Analyze outcome data from the literature and quality improvement processes to identify necessary changes that will improve oncology care throughout the healthcare system.

• Involve patients and families in the analysis of quality improvement activities.

• Evaluate practice environment and quality of oncology nursing care, and identify opportunities for research.

• Use the results of quality improvement to initiate changes in oncology nursing practice and the healthcare delivery system.

• Identify needed changes in processes of care, therapeutic approaches, equipment, or other products based on evidence to improve oncology nursing practice.

• Develop, implement, and/or evaluate policies, procedures, and guidelines to improve the quality of practice.
Core Competency 1:

Oncology nurses have in-depth knowledge regarding cancer pathophysiology, disease progression, treatment modalities, treatment side effects and complications, symptom problems, and palliative care.

**Measurement Criteria:**

- Understands the disease process, disease progression, prognosis, clinical presentation (signs and symptoms), risk factors, and standard treatments to manage cancer diseases.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the role surgery plays in the many aspects of cancer diagnosis and treatment.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the classifications, mechanism of action, and indications for and side effects of chemotherapeutic agents.
- Demonstrates an understanding of and follows standards/guidelines related to the principles of safe handling and administration of chemotherapy.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the mechanism of action, principles, and purpose of the various types of radiation therapy.
- Demonstrates an understanding of and follows standards related to the principles of radiation protection precautions and safe handling/disposal of radioactive sources.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the principles, indications, classification, and mechanism of action of biotherapy/hormones.
- Demonstrates an understanding of and follows standards/guidelines related to the principles of safe handling and administration of biotherapy/hormones.

**Standard 2: Knowledge**

AONSs and ONSs demonstrate satisfactory knowledge base; reflect evidence-based practices; and use analytical skills, clinical judgment, critical thinking and analysis, and self-appraisal in all scope of applications.
• Demonstrates an understanding of the principles and indications for hematopoietic stem cell transplants.

• Demonstrates an understanding of and follows standards related to the principles of safe handling/disposal and infusion of hematopoietic stem cell transplant.

• Demonstrates an understanding of the effects of combined therapies on the severity/synergy of side effects and complications.

• Understands the use of all treatment modalities in palliation of patients with advanced disease.

• Understands the disease process, disease progression, prognosis, clinical presentation (signs and symptoms), risk factors, and standard treatments in managing the following oncologic emergencies:
  – Spinal cord compression,
  – Superior vena cava syndrome,
  – Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion,
  – Disseminated intravascular coagulation,
  – Neoplastic cardiac tamponade,
  – Tumor lysis syndrome,
  – Hypercalcemia,
  – Malignant bowel obstruction, and
  – Sepsis/febrile neutropenia.
Core Competency 2:
Oncology nurses possess sufficient knowledge of cancer type and trajectory, etiology of symptoms, and treatment complications to anticipate treatment side-effects and symptoms using best practice/evidence-based interventions to prevent or minimize problems/symptoms as they occur.

Measurement Criteria:
- Explains the physiology and pathophysiology of distressing physical symptoms and analyzes the underlying cause(s) for each symptom.
- Understands the main principles of symptom assessment and management.
- Identifies drug of choice to treat each symptom based on the patient’s condition.
- Explains the most common valid and reliable guidelines in treating symptoms.
- Identifies the most common physical, psychosocial, and spiritual symptoms experienced by patients with cancer.

Core Competency 3:
Oncology nurses understand the relevant basic science related to pain and pain management approaches.

Measurement Criteria:
- Understands and explains the pathophysiology of pain.
- Explains the principles of pain assessment
- Possesses an in-depth knowledge of pharmacological and non-pharmacological pain management.
- Explains the World Health Organization ladder of pain management.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the classifications, mechanism of action, indications for and side effects of opioid, non-opioid, and adjuvant analgesics.
- Describes the concepts of tolerance, physical dependence, addiction, and pseudoaddiction.
Core Competency 4:
Oncology nurses possess sufficient knowledge about end-of-life care, loss, and grief.

Measurement Criteria:

- Recognizes the impact of a terminal illness on the patient’s physical, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being; and their families.
- Identifies signs and symptoms of impending death.
- Discusses the stages of grief as a response to loss.
- Differentiates the manifestations of normal and complicated grief.
- Understands the personal impact of loss, grief, and bereavement.

Core Competency 5:
Oncology nurses use safe treatment delivery devices (technology).

Measurement Criteria:

- Understands the safety issues associated with technical devices used in cancer treatment, such as central venous access devices, syringe drivers, ambulatory pain pumps, etc.
- Assesses and anticipates problems/issues associated with these devices and educates the individual/family about self-care related to these devices.
- Manages the care of the individual/family safely with these devices per existing organizational standards.
Core Competency 1:
Oncology nurses contribute to systematic knowledge-development and research by integrating scientific inquiry into all areas of practice and decision-making.

Measurement Criteria:

- Critiques research to apply to practice.
- Provides evidence-based rationale for all decisions and actions.
- Uses current healthcare research findings and other evidence to expand clinical knowledge, skills, abilities, and judgment to enhance role performance and to increase knowledge of professional issues.
- Participates in research activities as appropriate to the nurse’s education and practice setting.
- Identifies clinical problems suitable for scientific inquiry, research, and/or quality assessment.
- Incorporates evidence-based information in oncology nursing to improve nursing-sensitive patient outcome.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Promote evidence-based practice in all areas of oncology nursing.
- Apply research findings in developing policies, procedures, and practice guidelines.
- Examine and evaluate practice in regard to current research findings.
- Contribute to nursing knowledge by conducting research to improve oncology care.
• Serve as resource to staff nurses regarding the research process and research-based nursing practice.

• Translate research findings and other evidence for other healthcare professionals to improve the care of patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.

• Disseminate research findings through activities such as presentations, publications, consultation, and journal clubs.

**Core Competency 2:**
Oncology nurses demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills in accessing, interpreting, and evaluating evidence-based knowledge and in the decision-making process.

**Measurement Criteria:**

• Uses research and best practice/evidence-based knowledge in assessing, planning, providing, and evaluating care.

• Reflects on personal practice to examine thoughts, feelings, actions, beliefs, assumptions, and knowledge in providing care and using this to improve practice.

• Identifies, analyzes, and uses relevant and valid information when making decisions.

• Uses best available evidence while respecting the values and beliefs of individuals or groups when providing nursing activities.

• Analyzes cancer care situations critically to identify potential ethical issues, applies an ethical framework to support individual/family decision-making processes, and accesses resources to assist as required.

• Identifies potential or actual gaps in cancer care and works creatively with the interprofessional healthcare team to resolve them.

• Updates and recommends guidelines and procedures based on current evidence.
Core Competency 1:

Oncology nurses communicate effectively in a variety of formats in all areas of practice.

Measurement Criteria:

• Assesses communication format preferences of patients, families, and colleagues.

• Uses appropriate communication skills and strategies when communicating with patients with cancer and their families.

• Encourages patients and families to clarify and communicate their values.

• Identifies the appropriate time to communicate with patients with cancer and their families.

• Recognizes common barriers, facilitators, and challenges when communicating with patients with cancer and their families.

• Identifies the roles and responsibilities of each member in the interdisciplinary team in the communication process.

• Uses clear and concise language that respects whole person care in the documentation process.

• Provides concise statements about the significance of appearance, voice quality, and/or non-verbal communication in clinical interactions.

• Assesses patient’s and family members’ wishes regarding the amount of information they want to receive and share.
• Utilizes appropriate evidence-based guidelines and skills when sharing bad news.

• Responds effectively to patient’s and family members’ responses to bad news.

• Conveys information to patients, families, the interprofessional team, and others in communication formats that promote accuracy.

• Seeks continuous improvement of communication and conflict resolution skills.

• Recognizes the ongoing stress of working in cancer care and the importance of maintaining therapeutic relationships, a balanced life, and seeking professional help when needed.

**Core Competency 2:**

Oncology nurses establish collegial relationships with all members of the healthcare team and contribute to the professional development of peers and colleagues.

**Measurement Criteria:**

• Works cooperatively and functions as an effective member of the healthcare team; promoting an environment conducive to collaboration, contribution, and professional communication.

• Facilitates professional growth of self and others by acting as a preceptor and/or mentor for new staff and students.

• Assists colleagues and students in developing therapeutic relationships with patients and families.

• Participates in peer performance appraisals that are constructive and reflective of oncology nursing practice and professional development.

• Collaborates with colleagues in conducting research, preparing reports, publications, and presentations, as appropriate.

• Provides leadership that improves the quality of care and advances nursing practice throughout the work setting and the community.
• Contributes to an environment conducive to clinical education of nursing students and other healthcare professionals as appropriate.

• Recognizes and respects colleagues and their contributions.

• Accepts feedback from interdisciplinary team members.

• Maintains a balance relationship (i.e., keeping boundaries) with other members of a multidisciplinary team.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Model expert practice to healthcare team members and patients and their families.

• Participate in interdisciplinary teams that contribute to oncology nursing role development, advanced oncology nursing practice, and improved health services for patients and families.

• Provide constructive feedback to interdisciplinary team members.

• Collaborate with healthcare team to inform policy and guideline development.

• Coordinate human, capital, system and community resources, and strategies including policies, services, and environmental modifications to develop professional care.

• Promote open communication systems for professional organization.

• Analyze role conflicts or confusion and seeks information that leads to resolution.

• Evaluate the effectiveness of interprofessional communication in meeting identified outcomes of cancer care programs.
Core Competency 3:
Oncology nurses collaborate with patients, families, and multidisciplinary teams to care for the patient with cancer and their family.

Measurement Criteria:

• Establishes rapport and supportive ongoing relationships with patients, families, and other healthcare providers.

• Collaborates with the patient, family, and other healthcare providers in formulating goals and the plan of care through communication and documentation.

• Makes referrals as appropriate.

• Develops relationships with colleagues to partner with others to effect change and generate positive outcomes in planning and evaluating care.

• Fosters and promotes an environment that facilitates professional communication and collaboration between oneself and colleagues.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Facilitate interdisciplinary processes and collaborate with the healthcare team members to improve care.

• Collaborate with other disciplines and the healthcare team members regarding continuity of care, rehabilitation, home care, symptom management, and palliative and hospice care.

• Document the plan of care communications, rationale for changes, and collaborative discussions.
Standard 5: Professional Development

Professional development encompasses experiences, activities, and processes that contribute toward the development of oncology nurses as a healthcare professional.

Core Competency 1:

Oncology nurses demonstrate competency in oncology nursing practice and maintains current knowledge gained from publications, research findings, and professional activities.

Measurement Criteria:

- Demonstrates commitment to lifelong learning by participating in ongoing educational activities (formal or independent) to expand knowledge, enhance role performance, and increase knowledge of professional issues.
- Seeks opportunities to obtain knowledge and experiences necessary to develop and maintain clinical skills that reflect current practice.
- Maintains and updates knowledge of political, cultural, spiritual, social, healthcare, and ethical issues related to oncology care and practice setting.
- Acknowledges and utilizes colleagues as resources and pursues diverse avenues to enhance knowledge and performance.
- Maintains professional records to provide evidence of learning.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Assess knowledge, skills, and practice competencies of nurses and nursing personnel to advance oncology nursing practice using tools and instruments when available.
- Plan educational programs that target staff needs staff to improve oncology nursing practice and outcomes for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis based on available evidence.
• Implement educational programs, based on assessed needs of staff, to improve oncology nursing practice and patient outcomes.

• Disseminate knowledge required to care for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis to other healthcare workers and caregivers through peer education, staff development, mentoring, and preceptor experiences.

• Participate in continuing education opportunities and uses current research findings and other evidence to expand clinical knowledge, enhance role performance, and increase knowledge of professional oncology nursing issues.

Core Competency 2:

Oncology nurses evaluate personal nursing practice in relation to professional practice standards and relevant statutes and regulations. In addition, oncology nurses evaluate personal clinical practice to provide competent and culturally sensitive care and are accountable to the public and the profession.

Measurement Criteria:

• Demonstrates competency in areas relevant to oncology nursing practice.

• Demonstrates knowledge of current professional practice standards, laws, and regulations.

• Contributes to systematic knowledge development and research by integrating scientific inquiry into areas of practice and decision-making.

• Engages in regular performance appraisal of personal clinical practice and role performance; identifying areas of strength and areas for further development and improvement.

• Demonstrates understanding of a therapeutic nurse-patient relationship and seeks regular constructive feedback regarding individual practice and role performance.

• Participates in peer performance appraisal activities as appropriate.
• Seeks to obtain certification per eligibility criteria to demonstrate continued professional development that reflects practice, experience, and current knowledge in cancer care.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Evaluate personal advanced nursing practice in regards to institutional, state, and federal laws and regulations as well as patient and family outcomes.

• Identify personal strengths and weaknesses and independently seek opportunities to meet educational and other performance goals.

• Communicate areas of concern regarding performance of peers and other healthcare professionals in a professional and ethical manner.

• Promote life-long learning and evidence-based practice, by self and others, to improve the care of patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.

• Contribute to the professional development and education of others regarding oncology nursing.

• Foster a learning environment proactively by serving as a role model, mentor, preceptor, and facilitator of learning for oncology nurses and students.

• Promote communication of information and advancement of oncology nursing through writing, publication, and presentations for professional and lay audiences.

• Maintain professional competence and credentials appropriate to the advanced clinical nurse specialist role and the oncology specialty.

• Participate actively in professional associations and organizations that promote cancer care and advanced oncology nursing.
Core Competency 1:
Oncology nurses promote self-awareness of values and beliefs, self-development and personal resilience.

Measurement Criteria:

- Engages actively in teamwork.
- Develops communication and conflict resolution skills.
- Possesses experience in establishing and leading teams.
- Exhibits creativity and flexibility through times of change.
- Demonstrates energy and passionate for quality work.
- Accepts mistakes by self and others and works to address changes in practice that help to decrease errors.
- Exhibits energy, excitement, and passion for quality of care and teamwork.

Core Competency 2:
Oncology nurses provide nursing professional leadership and management skills.

Measurement Criteria:

- Oversees the nursing care given by others while retaining accountability for the quality of care given to the patient.
- Participates actively in interprofessional teams to ensure the nursing perspective is considered in health system structures and processes.
- Applies leadership skills in promoting practice change.
• Integrates and applies knowledge about continuous quality improvement and program evaluation to improve the quality of cancer patient care and patient satisfaction, taking into consideration care costs and resource allocation issues.

• Creates and maintains a healthy work environment by supporting and valuing colleagues.

• Directs coordination of care across settings with all members of the multidisciplinary team.

•Displays ability to define clear vision, goals, and plan.

• Influences decision-making bodies and policymakers to improve individual and group care, healthcare services, and policies.

• Accepts change based on evidence and addresses emerging situations.

• Develops innovative solutions and takes action to resolve conflicts.

• Participates in disaster management plan.

• Serves in leadership roles in the clinical setting, including committees and councils.

• Promotes the advancement of oncology nursing through participation in professional organizations.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Work to influence professional advocacy and legislative organizations to improve the care of patients with cancer and their families.

• Mentor colleagues in acquiring clinical knowledge, skills, abilities, and judgment.

• Design innovations to effect change in oncology nursing practice and to improve the health outcomes of patients with cancer and their families.

• Initiate and revise protocols and guidelines to reflect evidence-based practice and improve health outcomes for patients with cancer.
• Participate in professional and specialty nursing organizations, and advocacy and service organizations related to nursing oncology.

• Provide direction to enhance the effectiveness of the interprofessional team work.

• Model expert practice to interprofessional team members and healthcare consumers.

• Delegate professional practices and aspects of care to others according to their competence and scope of practice.

• Provide effective supervision to ensure that delegated care and professional practice are provided safely and accurately.

• Uphold accountability and responsibility when delegating aspects of care to others.

• Influence decision-making bodies to improve the professional practice environment and healthcare consumer outcomes.

• Determine aspects of oncology nursing practice that require change, improvement, or maintenance based on available evidence.

• Analyze the clinical, human resource, and fiscal implications of implementing programs, products, and devices into oncology nursing practice.

• Analyze facilitators and barriers to oncology nursing practice within and external to the organization/system.

• Analyze barriers and facilitators to achieving desired outcomes of cancer care programs.

• Analyze the impact of legislative and regulatory policies on oncology nursing practice.

• Evaluate organizational policies for the ability to support and improve outcomes of cancer care programs.

• Participate in legislative and regulatory initiatives to advance the healthcare of the public across the cancer continuum.
• Plan strategies to overcome barriers and facilitate changes in oncology nursing practice, including the implementation of new programs, products, and devices.

• Develop system-level policies that can be generalized across different oncology units and settings, populations, or specialty services.

• Participate in the development of interprofessional standards of practice and evidence-based guidelines for oncology care.

• Collaborate with stakeholders to foster adoption of oncology practice innovations.

• Use the results of system-level evaluations to make process or structural changes, including policies, procedures, or protocols affecting oncology nursing practice across settings.

• Evaluate the impact of oncology nursing interventions on human and fiscal resources.

• Document evaluation of the impact of oncology nurses practice on the organization in a measurable and reportable manner.

• Disseminate to stakeholders the impact of oncology nurses practice on system-wide and nursing practice outcomes.
Measurement Criteria:

- Evaluates factors related to safety, effectiveness, availability, and cost when two or more practice options would result in the same expected outcome.

- Discusses benefits and cost of treatment when exploring options with the family and members of the healthcare team, as appropriate.

- Assists the patient and family to secure appropriate services and financial resources to address health-related needs.

- Assists the patient and family in becoming informed consumers about the cost, risks, and benefits of treatment and care.

- Delegates responsibilities for the performance of selected patient care activities as defined by the state nurse practice acts and according to the knowledge and skills of the caregiver.

- Manages the environment of nursing care by identifying resources necessary to achieve desired outcomes.

- Makes clinical and management decisions that reflect the ability to prioritize actions and utilize colleagues in achieving desired outcomes.

- Makes clinical and management decisions that consider available resources and desired outcomes of practice.

- Participates in appropriate ongoing evaluation of resource utilization.

- Advocates for resources, including technology, that enhance oncology nursing practice.
In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Use organizational and community resources to formulate multidisciplinary plans of care.
- Develop innovative solutions for care problems that maintain high quality care and use resources wisely.
- Design evaluation strategies that demonstrate cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, and efficiency factors associated with nursing practices.
- Allocate resources based on identified needs and goals.
- Assist stakeholders in identifying and securing appropriate resources.
Standards 8: Environmental Health

AONSs and ONSs practice in an environmentally safe and healthy manner.

Measurement Criteria:

- Attains knowledge of environmental health concepts, such as implementation of environmental health strategies.
- Promotes a practice environment that reduces environmental health risks for workers and patients with cancer and their families.
- Assesses the practice environment for factors such as sound, odor, noise, and light that threaten health.
- Advocates for judicious and appropriate use of products in healthcare.
- Communicates environmental health risks and exposure reduction strategies to patients, families, colleagues, and communities.
- Utilizes scientific evidence to determine if a product or treatment is an environmental threat.
- Participates in strategies to promote healthy communities.
- Discloses observations or concerns related to hazards and errors in care or the practice environment to the appropriate level.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Create partnerships that promote sustainable environmental health policies and conditions.
- Analyze the impact of social, political, and economic influences on the environment and human health exposures.
- Evaluate critically how popular media presents environmental health issues.
- Advocate for implementing environmental principles for nursing practice.
- Support nurses in advocating for and implementing environmental principles in nursing practice.
II: The JNC National Practice Standards for the AONS and ONS

**Standard 9: Provision of Clients-Centered Care**

AONSs and ONSs use critical thinking skills and best evidence-based knowledge to assess, diagnose, plan, implement, and evaluate nursing interventions aimed at restoring optimum health in all its dimensions during the cancer experience.

**Sub-standard 9.1: Assessment**

AONSs and ONSs conduct timely and comprehensive assessments of the health and supportive care needs of the individual with past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis and their families across the cancer continuum using a systematic approach that is sensitive to language and culture. AONSs and ONSs consider the situational context and the needs and responses of the individual and family in determining the scope and depth of assessment.

**Measurement criteria:**

- Obtains relevant health history for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis which includes a review of systems and evaluation of the presence or absence of manifestations of cancer and cancer treatment.
- Uses evidence-based assessment tool/framework to continually collect relevant data while conducting it in a systematic manner that is sensitive to the needs of the individual/family, the context of the situation, and growth and development theory.
- Assesses the impact of physical comorbidities on cancer symptoms and response to treatment.
- Collects and considers relevant clinical data from a variety of sources (e.g., vital signs, laboratory profiles, medication profiles, and diagnostic imaging tests) to obtain a comprehensive picture of the individual’s physical response to the cancer experience.
- Assesses and monitors regularly for potential acute and chronic physical changes to the individual’s response to illness using focused assessment tools (i.e., pain flow sheet or fatigue scales).
• Performs a comprehensive assessment of functional status and ability to perform routine activities of daily living.

• Assesses for signs and symptoms of oncologic emergencies in high-risk patients.

• Conducts a pharmacologic assessment, including over-the-counter medications, prescription drugs, nutritional supplements, and other complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies, to identify any potential interactions with cancer therapeutics.

• Conducts in-depth assessments to assess the individual for the presence of common cancer-related pain and other symptom experiences on a regular and ongoing basis using a validated assessment tool and exploring the individual’s symptom experience.

• Analyzes data obtained from ongoing symptom assessments critically to plan, implement, and evaluate nursing interventions during urgent and emergent illness episodes.

• Recognizes the impact of personal attitudes, values, and beliefs.

• Conducts a systematic, comprehensive psychosocial, spiritual, and cultural assessment that includes the individual/family’s response to cancer, their main concerns, feelings, fears, goals, and understanding of prognosis.

• Assesses the individual/family’s supportive and informational needs and their preferred role in decision-making.

• Assesses the individual/family’s preexisting mental health needs including therapies and outcomes (if relevant).

• Assesses the individual/family’s financial, social, and practical concerns that may impact their cancer experience.

• Assesses for psychological and spiritual distress, past and present coping skills, and the psychosocial impact of the cancer experience, including emotional distress and grief.
• Explores and documents the impact and meaning of illness on the individual/family and their support systems, taking into consideration their present life circumstances and their view of quality of life.

• Assesses and respects the individual/family’s religious and spiritual practices/resources they find helpful in times of crises.

• Assesses the roles, tasks, and stressors of individuals, support systems, and caregivers and their ability to manage the cancer experience.

• Assesses the individual/partner’s understanding of possible/probable changes in fertility and the need for birth control during treatment and recovery.

• Assesses the individual/partner’s comfort and willingness to discuss the impact of sexual health changes.

• Assesses changes in body image, personal relationships, intimacy, and self-esteem and their impact on the individual and partner.

• Assesses educational needs related to a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis and cancer treatment.

• Applies ethical, legal, and privacy guidelines and policies to the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of data and information.

• Documents assessment findings to facilitate coordination of care among healthcare providers.

• Assesses the need for changes in equipment or other products based on evidence, clinical outcomes, and cost-effectiveness to improve outcomes for patients with cancer.
In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Assess for common signs and symptoms indicating the presence of cancer, disease progression, or recurrence.
- Perform a relevant cancer risk assessment for:
  - a. Community-at-large;
  - b. At-risk populations; and
  - c. Patient with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.
- Assess patients’ personal and family history of cancer and the need for genetic counseling and/or testing.
- Perform a physical assessment of patients with cancer that includes an evaluation of manifestations related to cancer and cancer treatment.
- Identify the need for new or modified methods or tools to better assess patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.
- Analyze data from target groups and populations to design new programs to improve patient outcome.
Sub-standard 9.2: Problem Identification

AONSs and ONSs analyze the assessment data from nursing and other disciplines to determine the diagnoses or issues. Diagnoses help oncology nurses identify problems and subsequently determine the appropriate interventions, including the expected outcomes, plan, and evaluation.

Measurement Criteria:

- Analyzes and interprets assessment data accurately.
- Integrates clinical, psychological, cultural, and economic data to support problem identification.
- Examines and synthesizes complex information and data.
- Prioritizes problems from assessment data.
- Uses standardized classification systems and clinical decision support tools, when available, in identifying diagnoses or issues.
- Develops differential diagnoses of cancer-related problems and risk factors for patients, with a focus on manifestations of cancer and cancer treatment.
- Diagnoses physical and psychosocial problems based on knowledge of symptoms, functional status, risk factors, or developmental processes.
- Documents diagnoses or issues in a manner that facilitates the determination of the expected outcomes and plan.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Compare and contrast systematically clinical findings with normal and abnormal variations and developmental events in formulating a differential diagnosis.
- Utilize complex data and information obtained during interview, examination, and diagnostic processes in identifying diagnoses.
- Assist staff in developing and maintaining competency in the diagnostic process.
Sub-standard 9.3: Outcome Identification

AONSs and ONSs identify expected outcomes for a plan individualized to the patient’s health problem or the situation. The identification of expected outcomes allows oncology nurses to work with the patient and family to meet the mutual goals of care.

Measurement Criteria:

- Involves the patient, family, healthcare providers, and others in formulating expected outcomes when possible and appropriate.

- Develops context-specific outcomes based on assessment data and evidence-based literature in relation to ethical considerations, individual or group preferences, costs, resources, and risk-benefit ratio in collaboration with other healthcare teams.

- Defines expected outcomes in terms of the patient’s and family’s culture, values, and ethical considerations.

- Attends to patient’s expectations and the involvement of family in the care plan.

- Documents expected outcomes accurately as a measurable goal.

- Modifies expected outcomes according to changes in the status of the patient/family or evaluation of the situation.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Lead the design and development of interprofessional processes to address the identified diagnosis or issue.
Sub-standard 9.4: Planning

AONSs and ONSs develop a plan that prescribes strategies and alternatives to attain expected outcomes.

Measurement Criteria:

- Develops an individualized plan in partnership with the patient, family, and others considering the person’s characteristics or situation, including, but not limited to, values, beliefs, spiritual and health practices, preferences, choices, developmental level, coping style, culture and environment, and available technology.

- Establishes the plan priorities with the patient, family, and others as appropriate.

- Plans for the management of cancer and cancer treatment-related symptoms.

- Integrates interventions into the plan of care to prevent, remediate, modify, or resolve expected and unexpected outcomes in patients with cancer.

- Integrates pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment modalities into the plan of care.

- Contributes to a comprehensive plan of care as patient transitions from active treatment to long-term survivorship or end-of-life care.

- Integrates long-term evaluation and management of late effects of treatment into the plan of care.

- Provides information about clinical trials and research studies for which patients may be eligible.

- Incorporates appropriate patient care technology into the plan of care for patients with cancer.

- Documents the cancer-specific plan of care and intended patient outcomes to facilitate communication among healthcare team members.
• Contributes to resolving anticipated ethical conflicts that may arise in the care of patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.

• Modifies the plan according to the ongoing assessment of the healthcare consumer’s response and other outcome indicators.

In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

• Identify assessment strategies, diagnostic strategies, and therapeutic interventions that reflect current evidence, including data, research, literature, and expert clinical knowledge.

• Participate actively in the development and continuous improvement of systems that support the planning process.
Sub-standard 9.5: Implementation

AONSs and ONSs provide comprehensive, safe, and effective evidence-based and patient-centered care to achieve identified health outcomes. The overall goal is to improve the patient’s health status, promote quality of life, and facilitate optimal functioning.

Measurement Criteria:

- Partners with the patient, family, significant others, and caregivers as appropriate to implement the plan in a safe, realistic, and timely manner.
- Advocates for healthcare that is sensitive to the needs of the patient, with particular emphasis on the needs of diverse populations.
- Facilitates an interprofessional and evidence-based approach to the management of patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis across the continuum of care.
- Requests referrals throughout disease trajectory including end-of-life to professionals with specialized psychosocial-spiritual advisor or group.
- Facilitates transitions between healthcare settings to provide continuity of care.
- Integrates nursing interventions into an interprofessional plan of care to improve nursing-sensitive patient outcomes for patients with cancer.
- Uses system and community resources that improve the delivery of care for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.
- Provides anticipatory guidance and education to assist patients in coping with a cancer diagnosis and its potential or expected outcomes.
- Uses an ethical framework in all aspects of patient care to assist patients with cancer on issues related to the care and management of symptoms, advance directives, and palliative and end-of-life care.
- Manages pain and symptoms effectively using pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches.
• Facilitates palliative and end-of-life care for patients with cancer in collaboration with patients and other members of the interprofessional healthcare team.

• Implements the plan in a timely manner in accordance with patient and family safety goals.

• Documents implementation and any modifications, including changes or omissions, of the identified plan.

**In addition, an AONS will perform the following:**

• Prescribe some of the pharmacologic management of pain according to the agreed guidelines and polices of the healthcare institution and national laws.

• Use evidence-based interventions for patients that target cancer-related risk reduction.

• Refer patients to other healthcare providers for further evaluation as appropriate.

• Initiate appropriate interventions for patients experiencing an oncologic emergency.

• Facilitate use of systems, organizations, and community resources to implement the plan.

• Incorporate new knowledge and strategies to initiate change in nursing care practices if desired outcomes are not achieved.

• Assume responsibility for the safe and efficient implementation of the plan.

• Participate actively in the development and continuous improvement of systems that support the implementation of the plan.
Sub-standard 9.5A: Supportive and Therapeutic Relationships

The AONS and the ONS engage in caring and therapeutic relationships with individuals with past, current or potential diagnosis of cancer and their families. These relationships are supportive and sensitive to changing physical and psychosocial-spiritual responses.

Measurement Criteria:

- Understands the cancer experience and the different needs, feelings, fears, concerns, and losses that the individual/family may encounter as part of the cancer trajectory and is able to discuss them comfortably with the individual/family.

- Utilizes communication skills that include clarification, reflection, exploration, summarizing, and open-ended questions to facilitate the individual/family’s disclosure of their concerns, feelings, and the meaning of the illness experience.

- Listens actively to the individual/family, discusses his/her concerns, and understands that at times a supportive presence alone may be the most appropriate intervention.

- Engages in conversations with the individual/family that explore individual fears and concerns related to living with cancer (which may include disease progression, mortality, dying, and sexual health issues).

- Documents succinctly the individual/family’s perspective, reactions and responses, while maintaining confidentiality, but sharing needed information to the interprofessional healthcare team to provide individualized care.

- Applies knowledge of family dynamics and disease adaptation to support the individual/family’s adjustment to managing and living with the uncertainties of cancer as a chronic illness.

- Applies supportive care strategies and best practice/evidence-based psychosocial care interventions that are within the scope of practice to facilitate effective coping.
• Maintains awareness of and observes the boundaries that sustain a helping therapeutic relationship.

• Assists the individual/family to maintain/establish relationships with individuals or groups who have significant meaning to them over time.

• Understands the individual/family’s responses to changes in their cancer experience and intervening appropriately.

• Sees the individual/family independent of their disease and supports them as their lives are impacted by the illness.

• Communicates and discusses the individual/family’s situation with the interprofessional healthcare team and facilitates their understanding of the individual/family’s perspective, current experience, their cultural and spiritual beliefs, and the impacts on the response to treatment.

• Identifies individuals/families that require supportive psychosocial and spiritual care (i.e. depression) and provides referrals in a timely manner.
Sub-standard 9.5B: Teaching and Coaching

The AONS and the ONS specialist prepare individuals with past, current, or potential diagnosis of cancer and their families for the many different aspects of the cancer experience providing education, psychosocial-spiritual support, and counseling across the continuum.

Measurement Criteria:

• Assesses the patient/family’s readiness to learn, their learning styles, and preferred depth of information to develop a relevant teaching plan.

• Applies the principles of adult, child, and family learning when planning, implementing, and evaluating best practice/evidence-based nursing interventions to educate and coach individuals and families about the cancer experience.

• Adjusts teaching and coaching to address factors such as life stage, culture, education, and family decision-making and communication styles that impact on learning.

• Assesses the patient understanding of common psychological reactions and responses to the cancer experience and provides information about effective coping mechanisms.

• Identifies limitations in the nurse’s personal skill and knowledge base, referring to others when appropriate.

• Assists the patient/family to identify and build on their existing strengths when confronting new information and situations.

• Assists the individual/family to understand the importance of adopting healthy lifestyle behaviors to optimize treatment outcomes.

• Assists the individual/family to understand the risks and benefits of cancer treatment options, including clinical research trials, and complementary and alternative healthcare practices, taking into consideration their own values and beliefs.

• Facilitates the individual/family’s understanding of the episodic and chronic nature of cancer.
• Facilitates the development of self-care in order to manage and anticipate the signs and symptoms of disease, side effects of treatments, and symptom identification.

• Provides relevant information/education at the appropriate times through the cancer experience related to:
  
  a. Prevention and screening;
  b. Disease process and progression, and prognosis;
  c. Possible treatment options;
  d. Plan and goal of care;
  e. Treatments: purpose, side effects, scheduling, treatment administration, and management of side effects;
  f. Pain and symptom relief;
  g. Physical care through treatment and recovery;
  h. Psychosocial and spiritual care;
  i. Medication administration;
  j. Oncologic emergencies and other possible complications;
  k. Resources and services (agency and community);
  l. Recovery, rehabilitation, and survivorship;
  m. Palliative care and end-of-life care; and
  n. Bereavement.
Sub-standard 9.5C: Facilitating Continuity of Care/Navigating the System

AONSs and ONSs promote and facilitate continuity of care across care settings and between healthcare providers by sharing information on the individual/family’s current situation, plan of care and goals. AONSs and ONSs assist the individual/family to navigate the healthcare system through understanding its structure, system and processes, and providing them with strategies to work within that system.

Measurement Criteria:

- Applies knowledge to assist the individual/family to navigate the healthcare system, anticipating gaps and problems they may encounter, and guiding them in approaches to facilitate access to care.

- Facilitates coordination of care by collaborating with the interprofessional team regarding individual/family goals, needs, plan of care, main concerns, and expectations.

- Applies knowledge of the individual/family’s changing needs as they move across the cancer care continuum, supporting them through the transitions.

- Initiates, advocates, and mobilizes agency and community resources required by the individual/family to facilitate meeting needs at different points of time and care settings.

- Collaborates with the individual/family to assess and anticipate their needs for resources and supports their goals of care.

- Applies knowledge of the impact of cancer on the individual/family roles and relationships, and facilitates role redefinition and adaptation.

- Clarifies and validates the individual/family’s expectations of the healthcare system.
• Prepares the individual/family to understand the process of cancer care delivery and anticipates concerns about treatment delays and acceptable standards for wait times for cancer care delivery.

• Instructs the individual/family about the appropriate person to contact for concerns and problems as they move along the cancer trajectory.

• Helps the individual/family to understand the concept of palliative care and end-of-life care as the need arises along the trajectory and facilitating access to palliative care experts as needed.

• Advises the individual/family concerning survivorship issues specific to developmental stage and the resources available to support them.
Sub-standard 9.5D: Decision-Making and Advocacy

AONSs and ONSs, in collaboration with other members of the interprofessional healthcare team, facilitate self-determination and informed decision making for the individual/family. Oncology nurses advocate on behalf of the individual/family, communicating and documenting their preferred approach to care.

Measurement Criteria:

- Clarifies with the individual their understanding of the implications and outcomes of care and treatment before providing/administering it to them.
- Applies a non-judgmental approach to facilitating an individual’s decision-making.
- Refers the individual/family to an appropriate expert when necessary.
- Advocates for the individual/family’s wishes and decisions when developing the interprofessional plan of care.
- Helps the individual/family to identify and review goals, issues, and concerns related to decision-making.
- Integrates and applies knowledge of the influence of culture, developmental stage, age, gender influences, family dynamics, and the determinants of health in decision-making.
- Uses negotiation and collaborative skills to advocate for the patient.
- Assesses, on an ongoing basis, the individual/family’s preferred role in decision-making along the continuum.
- Helps the individual/family understand the various cancer treatment options available and the implications of the treatment decisions/choices that are made including those related to informed consent in clinical trial participation.
- Mediates when the individual and the individual’s family differ regarding self-determination.
- Documents the individual’s goals and preferences for decision-making and the processes used to arrive at these decisions.
Sub-standard 9.5C: Consultation

AONs provide consultation to influence the identified plan, enhance the abilities of others, and effect change.

Measurement Criteria:

- Synthesizes clinical data, theoretical frameworks, and evidence when providing consultation.
- Provides consultation services regarding pain and symptom management.
- Facilitates the effectiveness of a consultation by involving the patient, family, and stakeholders in decision-making and negotiating role responsibilities.
- Communicates consultation recommendations.
Sub-standard 9.6: Evaluation

AONSs and ONSs evaluate the patient’s progress toward attainment of expected outcomes. The plan of care and the impact of interventions are continually evaluated and subsequently changed to meet the patient’s needs and attain expected outcomes.

Measurement Criteria:

- Identifies methods to evaluate outcomes of nursing interventions for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.
- Evaluates clinical effectiveness, patient responses, efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and ethical considerations of interventions for patients with past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis.
- Monitors progress toward targeted outcomes for patients with a past, current, or potential cancer diagnosis and facilitates modifications as needed.
- Evaluates the overall effect of interventions on patients, based on synthesis of data.
- Documents patient care outcomes in a reportable manner.
- Conducts a systematic, ongoing, and criterion-based evaluation of the outcomes in relation to the structures and processes prescribed by the plan of care and the indicated timeline.
- Collaborates with the patient and others involved in the care or situation in the evaluation process.
- Uses ongoing assessment data to revise the diagnoses, outcomes, the plan, and the implementation as needed.
- Participates in assessing and assuring the responsible and appropriate use of interventions to minimize unwarranted or unwanted treatment and patient suffering.
In addition, an AONS will perform the following:

- Evaluate the accuracy of the diagnosis and the effectiveness of the interventions and other variables in relation to the healthcare consumer’s attainment of expected outcomes.

- Synthesize the results of the evaluation to determine the effect of the plan on healthcare consumers, families, groups, communities, and institutions.

- Adapt the plan of care for the trajectory of treatment according to evaluation of response.

- Use the results of the evaluation to make or recommend process or structural changes including policy, procedure, or protocol revision, as appropriate.

- Evaluate the use of new or modified methods or tools to assess patients with a past, current, or potential diagnosis of cancer.

- Evaluate the use of innovative or modified interventions for the care of patients with a past, current, or potential diagnosis of cancer.
References


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