PO4-10-11 Needs of oncology nurse navigators serving young or metastatic breast cancer patients
Kelly N. Owens PhD,1 Marleah Dean PhD,2 Elizabeth Bourquardes Clark MPH,3 Piri Welsh PhD,1 Diane Rose,1 Erica S. Kuhn MPH,1 Jessica Conaty MPH,1 Robin H. Pugh Yi PhD,1 Sue J. Friedman DVMD,1
1Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE), Tampa, FL, USA, 2Dept. of Communication University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA, 3Susan G. Komen, Dallas, TX, USA, 4Akeso Consulting, Vienna, VA, USA
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BACKGROUND
Oncology nurse navigators (ONNs) facilitate breast cancer patients’ care via information, resources, and referral services. Among breast cancer patients, they serve two important and distinct groups: young women with breast cancer (yBC), diagnosed age 45 or younger, and people living with metastatic breast cancer (mBC). Both groups report psychosocial distress and quality-of-life issues, and also have unique challenges: yBC patients face disruptions to family planning, potential emotional and psychological distancing from family and peers, and body image concerns. People living with metastatic breast cancer (mBC) face mortality and end-of-life issues, often intense treatment side effects and potentially substantial financial burdens.

OBJECTIVE: To determine the needs and barriers of ONNs serving yBC and mBC patients.

METHODS
52 active ONNs completed an online needs assessment survey. A survey created by a working group of patients, patient advocates, ONN and cancer and fertility professionals was used. ONNs were recruited by the University of South Florida IRB.

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS
ONNs’ reported substantial barriers to many services

- The majority of ONNs reported barriers for 12 of 14 queried services.

- Barriers were reported most frequently for: fertility preservation services, financial barrier, lack of program/providers, clinical trial services, patient understanding of value, medical jargon/health literacy barriers.

- The majority of ONNs reported no barrier for fatigue, morphine management, and pain management services.

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REFERENCES
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CONCLUSIONS
Most ONNs were interested in continuing education for sexual health and intimacy but not clinical trials, treatment side effects, or pain management.

- The most requested topics for patient education materials were mental health, sexual health/intimacy, and complementary/alternative medicine.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS
- Site-specific attention to differing needs of ONNs by job tenure may benefit patient education.
- Barriers to clinical trial referral, most commonly reported as lack of patient understanding of value, suggesting that patient education and materials may help reduce this barrier.