



Clinical Pathways in Oncology Video Series (Part 2): Implementing and Measuring Outcomes



Panel

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Background

The majority of large health systems and oncology provider groups use clinical pathways in their efforts to standardize cancer treatment, improve patient outcomes, and control costs. According to a recent survey, 70% of healthcare decision-makers use clinical pathways at their organization,¹ and pathway adherence rates of ~80% are reported by one of our panelists.

In this 4-episode video series, Dr Evan Slater and Dr Sophia Humphreys share their perspectives on implementing clinical pathways and measuring the impact.

Key Highlights

- Episode 1: Shared decision-making is an important part of value-based care**, and while pathways are designed to provide guidance, they are not mandated and physicians are free to tailor their treatment approach as needed for their patients
- Episode 2: Adherence, tolerability, time on treatment, and overall survival are some of the metrics evaluated to measure the impact of clinical pathways**
- Episode 3: Organizations look to industry partners to provide education and information about treatments** in development to inform pathway committee decisions
- Episode 4: The future of clinical pathway development and implementation may be impacted by technologies such as artificial intelligence**

“The end game is always the patient and, ultimately, what the patient and provider support and how they feel best about moving forward for that patient’s journey.”

— Dr Evan Slater

The Future of Clinical Pathways

Artificial intelligence may have a role to play in the future of clinical pathways. Our panelists agree there are a number of ways the emerging technology could be applied, including:



"If you have an AI tool to track pathway usage at each step, then you can differentiate at which steps physicians did not follow the pathway and **find opportunities to improve your pathway.**"

— Dr Sophia Humphreys

"Being able to truly leverage AI to support patient identification and treatment initiation is going to get patients on therapy quicker and hopefully help deliver the better drug at the best time for that particular patient."

— Dr Evan Slater

Reference: 1. Odera G, Brixner D, Biskuplak J, Harnett J, Chen CI, Quek RGW. Evolving oncology care management trends in the United States: a survey among health care decision makers. *J Manag Care Spec Pharm.* 2024;30(8) (suppl):18-20.

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