

Treatment Summaries for Head and Neck Cancer Survivors: Improving Patient Self Efficacy and Survivorship Care

Michael C. Topf, MD¹; Jena Patel, BS¹; Ramez Philips, MD¹; David M. Cognetti, MD¹

1Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

Introduction

- The treatment summary (TS) is a comprehensive cancer care record. It contains information regarding provider names and contact information, cancer diagnosis, tumor characteristics and treatment details.
- Incorporation of a comprehensive oncologic TS to assist with care coordination is a core element of survivorship care and was recommended by the Institute of Medicine in 2006.¹
- The TS as a survivorship tool is endorsed by the National Coalition of Cancer Survivors, American Cancer Society, and the American Head and Neck Society.
- In 2018, the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons required that >50% of eligible patients receive TS for its accredited programs.
- Despite this recent mandate, a recent survey of head and neck surgeons showed that only 43.1% of respondents were administering a TS to their head and neck cancer (HNC) survivors.²
- While the usefulness of treatment summaries has been evaluated in other cancer types including breast and colorectal cancer^{3,4}, it has yet to be studied in HNC survivors

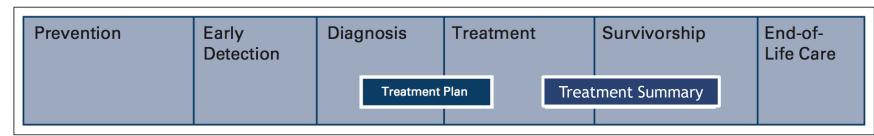


Figure 1. Timing of survivorship care plan delivery

Objective

• To determine if receiving treatment summaries enhances patient understanding and recall of cancer and treatment details, improves patient self-efficacy, and serves as a useful patient tool after completion of head and neck (HNC) therapy.

Methods and Materials

- Non-interventional survey study enrolling patients at TJUH Center City from May 2019 to May 2020.
- Patients will be surveyed about details of their diagnosis and treatment, and regarding the perceived usefulness of a TS form at baseline (completion of treatment).
- Patients will be re-surveyed about their diagnosis and treatment, and usefulness of the TS at their six month follow-up visit to determine if the TS improved their ability to recall these details.

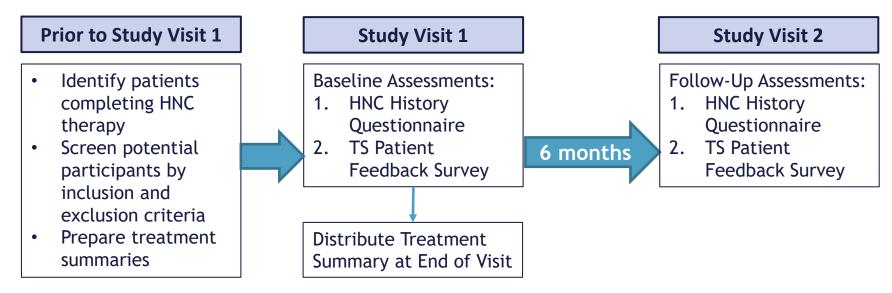
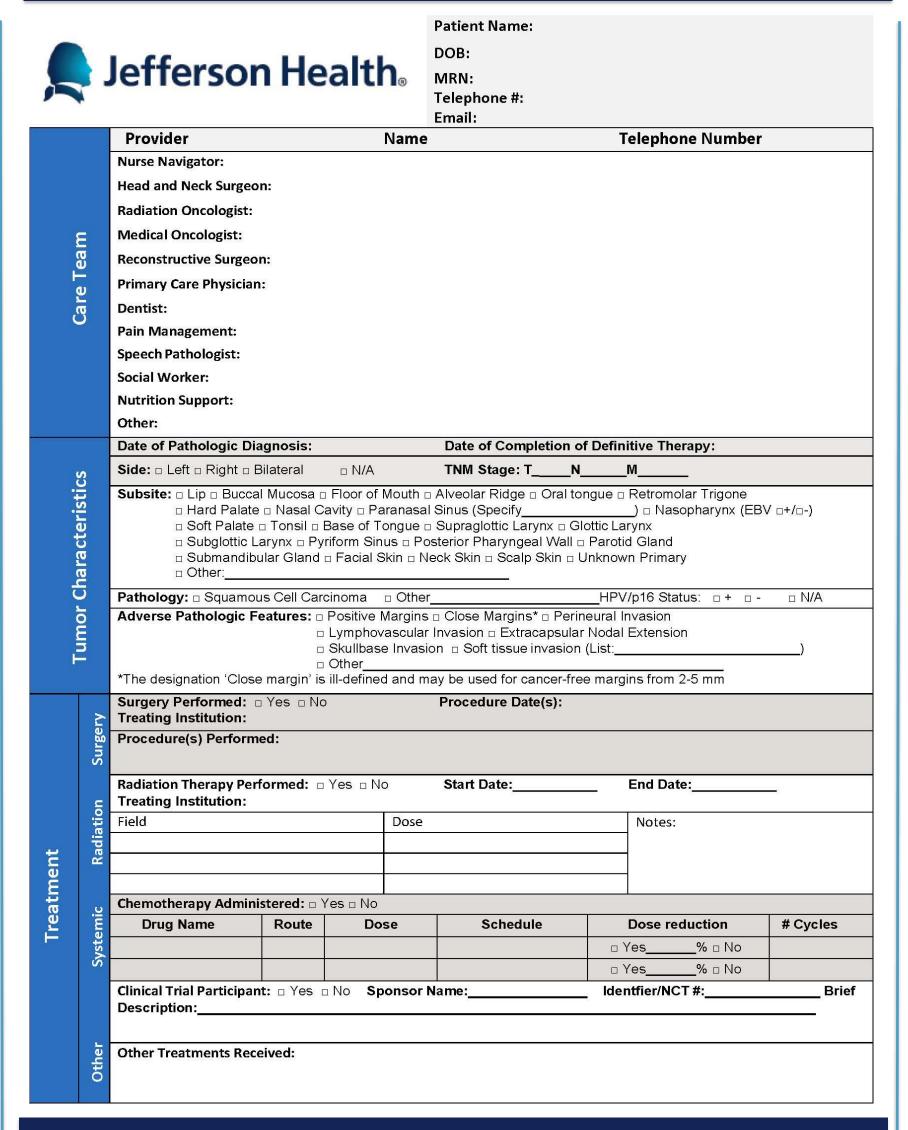


Figure 2. Schematic of study design.

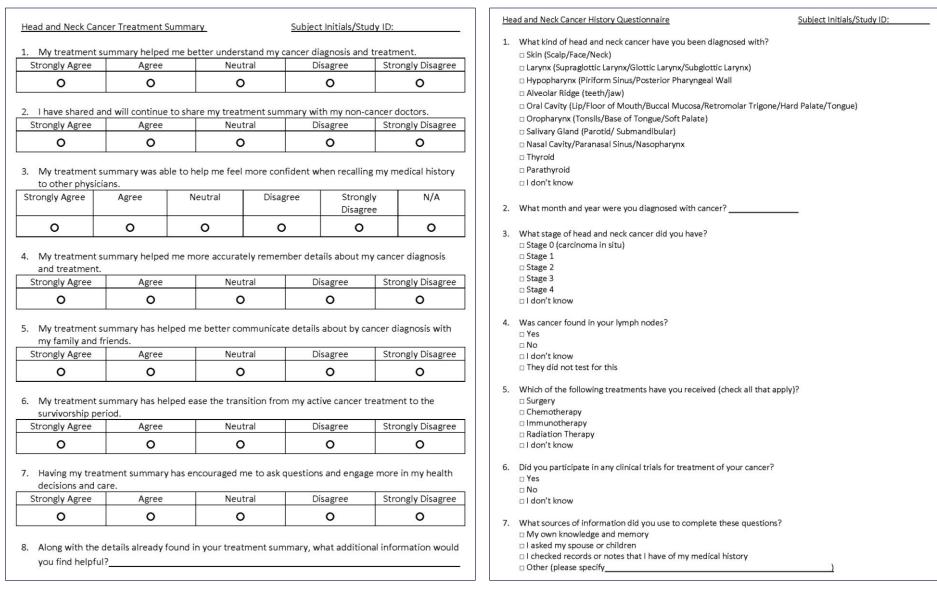
Treatment Summary Form



Statistical Analysis

- **Formal Hypothesis**: If patients receive a cancer TS after completion of their cancer care, then the accuracy and understanding of patient reported cancer related diagnosis and treatment details will significantly improve.
- Using a two-sided McNemar test with 1% significance, a minimum of 42 patients will achieve 95% power to detect the predetermined effect size.
- It is anticipated that up to 10% of patients may fail to complete the study. Thus,
 47 participants will need to be surveyed to have a fully powered study for analysis.
- Four patients will be recruited per month during a 12-month accrual period to achieve the desired sample size.

Patient Survey Forms



- The Head and Neck Treatment Summary Patient Feedback Survey will ask patients about the usefulness of the TS in communicating their cancer diagnosis to others and actively engaging in their healthcare during the survivorship period.
- The Head and Neck Cancer History Questionnaire Patients will ask about details of the patients' cancer diagnosis, tumor characteristics, and treatment received.

Discussion and Conclusions

- The treatment summary is an essential component of a survivorship care plan and should be given to all head and neck cancer survivors at the completion of their therapy.
- This study will help us better understand the patient derived benefits of receiving a TS upon completion of cancer therapy.

References

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Contact:

Michael C. Topf, MD

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital - Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Email: michael.topf@jefferson.edu