Foundations to Practice:  
Symptom Management of Patients with Cancer

This course addresses how health care professionals can help patients deal with physical symptoms and issues related to their disease and its treatment, such as gastrointestinal manifestations, pain, fatigue, cutaneous reactions, nutrition, psychosocial needs of patients, families, and caregivers, and sexual function and reproductive issues.

This course is strongly recommended as a prerequisite for the Comprehensive Chemotherapy and Biological Therapies Course.

All courses are sponsored by UPMC Hillman Cancer Center. The faculty consists of healthcare professionals with expertise in cancer care at UPMC.

**Time and Location:**
Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. The course concludes at approximately 4:30 p.m. Exact location and schedule will be provided in the confirmation letter sent one week prior to the class.

**Who Should Attend:**
This course addresses the needs of advanced practice providers, registered nurses, pharmacists, social workers, and other members of the healthcare team who care for oncology patients in the acute care, outpatient, extended care, rehabilitation, and home care settings. Other healthcare professionals involved in cancer care, or those who wish to expand their knowledge of cancer care, are also welcomed to attend.

**Continuing Education Credit:**
In support of improving patient care, the University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

**Registration Information:**
All UPMC employees are required to register for educational programs through Learning via HR Direct. Employees may access HR Direct by logging on the UPMC Infonet. A User Guide is available on the Infonet. Manager approval may be required for some programs for some employees. If you receive this notice when enrolling, please notify your manager of your interest in the program.

Non-UPMC employees may register for the course by submitting a course registration form to the course director. Registration forms are located on the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center Professional Education Website [https://hillman.upmc.com/health-care-professionals/education/courses](https://hillman.upmc.com/health-care-professionals/education/courses)

Updated 5/2021
The registration fee for this individual course live attendance is $80 and virtual attendance is $40. The registration fee for all five courses within the series is $300 for live and $150 virtual. For live courses, the registration fee includes program materials and morning and afternoon refreshments. Tuition is waived for employees of UPMC and UPMC affiliates.

Deadline for registration is one week before the course date.

**Cancellation Policy:**
- If you cannot attend any course for any reason, you need to directly notify the course registrar by calling 412-623-3651 and leaving a voicemail message or by emailing Amy DiMaggio at dimaggioa@upmc.edu.
- The course schedule is not changed by school delays. For any adverse weather conditions, please use your best judgment.
- For class cancellations, an announcement will be available at 412-623-3651 and an email will be sent to class attendees.

The program sponsors reserve the right to make changes or cancel the program because of unforeseen circumstances.

**Personal Accommodations:**
Please indicate any personal accommodations you may need for the program, such as sign language interpreter, large print conference materials, Braille conference materials, wheelchair height tables, or other. Please call 412-623-3651 or email Amy DiMaggio at dimaggioa@upmc.edu two weeks prior to the program if you need any personal accommodations in order to participate.
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Objectives

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Recall strategies to assess patients for three symptoms of cancer or cancer treatments.
- Identify three interventions to treat or manage the side effects of patients with symptoms of cancer or cancer treatments.
- Recognize psychosocial needs the patient with cancer may experience.
- Explain the use supportive services to assist patients with symptom management of cancer or cancer treatments.
- Demonstrate learning has occurred by receiving at least an 85% on final quiz.

Course Content

- Body Image, Sexuality, and Reproductive Issues
- Cutaneous Reactions
- Fatigue
- Gastrointestinal Manifestations
- Integrative Oncology
- Nutritional Support
- Pain Management
- Psychosocial Needs of Patients, Families, and Caregivers
- Rehabilitation
- Survivorship