

**Project TEACH
Interdisciplinary
Coordination of Medication
Management**

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Making Cancer History®



Interdisciplinary Coordination of Medication Management

- The counselor is generally in the best position to assess the patient's needs, priorities, and concerns regarding their quit attempt. An important part of this discussion should include the patient's thoughts about utilizing medication or nicotine replacement therapies.

Possible Considerations

- Some patients are reluctant to add another pill to their regimen. Others have difficulty taking medications consistently. Still others may have heard things about the medications we use that frighten them.

Possible Considerations

(continued)

- By taking the time to understand their feelings and possible biases, the counselor can then communicate this to the medical team so that they can choose a regimen that is appropriate for the patient and most likely lead to a successful outcome.

Some Points for Discussion and Things to Consider are as Follows:

- What smoking cessation medications/ NRT's have you tried in the past?
- Do you think it helped?

Some Points for Discussion and Things to Consider are as Follows

(continued)

- Why did you stop using it?
- What do you know about (X) medication?

After Providing Basic Education About Various Options, the Counselor May Ask:

- Which of these approaches sounds like it would be best for you?

After Providing Basic Education About Various Options, the Counselor May Ask:

(continued)

If the patient has reservations about taking a medication, the counselor should inquire further. The patient may express a general reluctance to take “pills” or may express concerns about their ability to take them consistently. By understanding the patient’s perspective, the team can help the patient determine the best option.

Ongoing Dialogue: Revisit Issues Related to Medication When:

- The patient hasn't started medication
- The patient isn't using it as recommended
- The patient expresses some concern

Coordination of Care for Patients Requiring Psychiatric Service

- When patients are identified as having unmet needs for psychiatric care, we offer a referral to our addictions specialist psychiatrist.

Coordination of Care for Patients Requiring Psychiatric Service

(continued)

- Frequently identified problems include:
persistent sleep problems, anxiety
and/or depression.

Psychiatric Care

- By providing needed relief from persistent symptoms, our hope is that patients will be more successful in their quit attempts.

Psychiatric Care

(continued)

- Ongoing collaboration between the counselor and the psychiatrist supports a cohesive treatment plan.

Coordination of Care in Community Mental Health

- How is coordination of care arranged in your clinic?
- What is the referral process?