

**Abstract:**

**Purpose:** Drug therapy for cancer is a high-risk, high-volume clinical intervention that requires interprofessional teams. Given the complexity of anticancer drug therapy and safety concerns, an interdisciplinary team developed a novel training program for oncology registered nurses and pharmacists to improve cancer drug safety.

**Methods:** Participants completed preworkshop learning assessments and received access to web-based modules on six topics: hazardous drug handling, drug extravasation, hypersensitivity reaction management, sepsis recognition, immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicities, and oral oncolytic adherence. In a 7-hour workshop, participants applied module content in interactive exercises and high-fidelity simulations. Preworkshop and postworkshop questionnaires assessed changes in knowledge and confidence in each topic. Program satisfaction and changes to clinical practice or policies were assessed 3 months after the workshop.

**Results:** Two hundred ninety-two nurses and 82 pharmacists applied to participate, and 103 (35%) and 44 (54%) have participated, respectively. Long-term follow-up data were available on 133 (90%) participants. Change scores in confidence to meet program objectives increased between pre- and postworkshop (range of increase 0.6-0.8,  $P < .01$ ). Knowledge scores increased significantly between pre- and postworkshop (average improvement of 3.2 points,  $P < .01$ ). Overall program satisfaction was high (mean 5.0, standard deviation [0.2] on a five-point scale). Seventy-seven (60%) reported that they had made at least one clinical practice or institutional policy change at 3 months.

**Conclusion:** An interprofessional education program with online modules, in-person interactive sessions, and simulation activities is a promising strategy to deliver cancer drug safety content to practicing oncology clinicians.

**Reference:**

Aebersold ML, Kraft S, Farris KB, Scherdt M, Olsen M, Polovich M, Shelton BK, Montgomery GH, Friese CR. Evaluation of an Interprofessional Training Program to Improve Cancer Drug Therapy Safety. *JCO Oncol Pract*. 2021 Feb 12:OP2000816. doi: 10.1200/OP.20.00816. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33577351.