Future of Cancer Health Economics Research
Virtual Conference - Online Survey

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Online Cancer Health Economics Research Survey

- Online survey opened in Survey Monkey in August 2020
- Anonymous survey – no identifying information collected, open to anyone who self-identifies as being based in the U.S.
  - NOT a representative/generalizable sample
- Collects information on importance of potential unmet needs in cancer health economics research and activities to enhance this field
  - Importance rated on 5-point scale: 0=“not at all important” to 4=“very important”
- IRB exempt – quality improvement initiative
Respondents as of Nov. 20, 2020

- N=80
- Highest degree(s): 55 PhD, 16 MD, 11 MPH; median years since highest degree 13 (range 0-45)
- Current role: 25 health economist, 26 health services researcher, 8 clinician, 5 other health researcher, 4 epidemiology, 3 behavioral scientist
- Main affiliation: 29 University medical center, 18 University (not medical center), 7 CDC, 5 NCI, 5 non-University medical center, 4 CRO, 3 insurance organization
- Engaged with cancer care, advocacy, and/or research: 73
- Engaged with cancer health economics/health services research: 69
Unmet Needs in Cancer Health Economics Research: Data

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

- Data resources on underserved populations
- Data include needed variables for econ analyses
- Public availability of data resources
- Information on state-specific policy changes
- Cost of purchasing/licensing data resources
Unmet Needs in Cancer Health Economics Research: Methods/Training

- Opportunities to gain new economics methods skills
- Need for agreed-upon definition of "value" for cancer care
- # trained in cancer health economics research
- Need for economic outcomes best practices

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important
Unmet Needs in Cancer Health Economics Research: Funding

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

- # available funding sources
- Difficulty obtaining funding
- Cancer economics research in funding opportunities
- Amount of funding for cancer health economics research
- Reviewers' perceptions of economics research relevance
Unmet Needs in Cancer Health Economics Research: Other Needs

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

- Economic researcher/clinician collaboration
- Career opportunities in cancer health economics research
- Opportunities to present/publish cancer health economics research
- Economics-focused groups at cancer clinical conferences
- Knowledge in disseminating research findings
Importance of Activities to Support Cancer Health Economics Research - Data

Enhance existing data resources

Develop new data resources

Online listing of state cancer policy initiatives

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important
Importance of Activities to Support Cancer Health Economics Research – Methods and Training

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

- Develop standardized tools for economic outcomes: 3
- Training programs for communicating economic results: 3
- Develop cancer health economics methods: 3
Importance of Activities to Support Cancer Health Economics Research – Funding

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

Investigator-initiated grant opportunities

Career development awards

Administrative supplements

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important
Importance of Activities to Support Cancer Health Economics Research – Other Activities

0 = not at all important to 4 = very important

Disseminating cancer health econ priorities to study sections
Disseminating cancer health econ information to health professionals
Holding cancer econ research sessions at broader conferences
Disseminating cancer health economic information to the public
Survey Summary and Conclusions

- In this anonymous, non-scientific survey, respondents indicated high importance for multiple issues related to data, funding, collaborations, and dissemination of research findings with only slightly lower importance ratings for training and methods.

- While clearly preliminary, these results may provide useful context for developing next steps to support the development of cancer health economics research.