Improving oncologists’ communication skills

August 30–September 3, 2010
April 12–15, 2011
ASPEN, COLORADO

A FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM for oncology faculty who teach communication

TWO INTENSIVE RETREATS
August 30–September 3, 2010
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One of the most positive experiences I’ve had in my training.

I thought I’d just add a few skills. But Oncotalk gave me a new foundation.

I came away more confident and capable.

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You use communication skills—but can you teach them?

In caring for patients with cancer, communication is powerful medicine. Really good communication enables patients to live better with cancer and their medical treatments. The best cancer care requires the most up-to-date treatments, a great system of care, and terrific communication. Yet many oncology fellows don’t get much training in communication skills, because most oncology faculty don’t have the teaching skills. Consequently, fellows struggle with communication skills that are just okay when they could be great—and great has some real advantages for oncologists—less burnout, more fulfilling work.

What is Oncotalk Teach?

Oncotalk Teach is a faculty development program designed for oncologists and other health professionals in oncology settings who teach fellows. We’ve developed a set of teaching tools specifically designed for teaching communication skills to oncology fellows. These teaching tools will help you teach communication as part of inpatient attending rounds and outpatient clinic visits, and enable you to teach short workshops.

Who should attend Oncotalk Teach?

We are looking for physicians and other health professionals who teach oncology fellows. We will give preference to teams of two or more professionals (an oncologist and another professional) because we think that Oncotalk faculty who have teaching partners will learn more.

What does the program involve?

Oncotalk Teach involves a foundation retreat that is 3.5 days, 5 months of monthly distance learning, and a completion retreat that is 1.5 days. Airfare, lodging, and most meals will be covered by the program.

What can I expect to take away?

We aim to provide Oncotalk faculty with a new repertoire of teaching skills that they can use at their home institutions to help their programs fulfill ACGME requirements for professionalism and communication.

How do I apply?

Fill out the application at www.oncotalk.info.