

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**1-31-23**

**PERFORMANCE GAP/ ACTIVITY NEED:** There has been a dearth of literature, as well as understanding, related to culturally-embedded meanings of cancer and related symptoms among American Indians. For this reason, we present findings from several of our NIH funded studies to explore cancer experiences and barriers to the management of pain, depression, fatigue, and loss of function among American Indians residing in the Southwestern United States. Many cancer survivors lack effective self-management techniques for symptoms, such as pain, fatigue, and depression. Understanding the reasons for reduced communication by American Indian cancer survivors is important for healthcare providers, family members, and others providing treatment and support for cancer symptoms. For providers, the challenges center on patient-provider communication, understanding of culturally embedded illness beliefs, and sociocultural barriers. Learners will be encouraged to identify effective strategies (i.e., communication, etc.) to improve their cultural competency in cancer health care delivery for American Indians. In addition, attendees will learn how to consider important cultural factors to improve their AI patients' perceived ability to manage their cancer symptoms and adhere to prescribed treatment protocols, as well as improve patient satisfaction with care [Source: FHodge, TLine ltty, RArbing1/4/23, personal communication).

**DESIRED OUTCOMES:** At the end of the activity, attendees will be able to:

- identify cultural constructs of cancer among AIs.
- identify barriers to cancer screening, treatment, and symptom management unique to AI patients.
- gain knowledge of cultural diversity/disparities/implicit bias related to AI patient - provider communications
- identify effective strategies to improve cultural competency in cancer health care delivery to AIs.
- manage AI patient care with intent to improve perceived ability (self-efficacy) to manage their cancer symptoms and adhere to prescribed treatment protocols.

**LEARNERS:** all clinicians

**DESIRABLE PHYSICIAN ATTRIBUTE:** provide patient-centered care, employ evidence-based practice, work in interdisciplinary teams

**CULTURAL/LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY/IMPLICIT BIAS (AB241)** Research indicates that health-related information is accepted and acted on when it is coupled with culturally appropriate information that is presented in a sensitive manner. American Indian populations may require special attention regarding various health topics, such as cancer and its related treatment. Recognizing the topic of cancer maybe taboo amongst American Indians, learners should consider the unique context of American Indians in today's healthcare system. In a collective culture, family members are key supporters that greatly impact cancer survivors' quality of life. Culturally appropriate and effective treatment and symptom management education and counseling methods by healthcare providers are needed when treating American Indian cancer survivors.