BRINGING ACADEMIC CARE TO THE COMMUNITY: A NOVEL COLLABORATIVE MODEL OF SERVICE DELIVERY TO PAIN PATIENTS BETWEEN AN ACADEMIC PAIN CENTRE AND A COMMUNITY BASED INTERDISCIPLINARY PAIN CLINIC

Angela Mailis, MD, MSc, FRCPC(PhysMed)
Director, Comprehensive Pain Program, and Senior Investigator, Krembil Neuroscience Centre, Toronto Western Hospital,

INTRODUCTION / AIM

To demonstrate the successful collaboration between a tertiary care pain program (CIPP/ UHN, Toronto) and a community-based interdisciplinary pain clinic (PWC, Vaughan ON) in the treatment of chronic pain patients.

METHODS

By using the framework of the MOHLTC Ontario Comprehensive Pain Strategy, since September 2014, the PWC serves the regions of York, Peel, Durham, Dufferin and Simcoe; provides timely access to evidence-based pain care to community chronic pain sufferers; facilitates stepped-up care as a conduit to and from the CIPP and the specialized services of UHN; networks with local facilities; and, as the extension of the CIPP in the community, provides chronic pain education to academic learners, practicing physicians and the local public, while it conducts community-relevant outcomes research.

RESULTS

Preliminary analysis of the first 100 patients indicates that the PWC population is distinctly different than the one served by CIPP, in regards to a much larger number of females, older individuals (>65), foreign born, and patients who are still in the work force, while opioid consumption is minimal. Approximately 7% of the PWC patients are directly referred to UHN services. Further analysis will report on one year period as well as educational and research output.

DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS

The PWC/CIPP collaborative model creates a community based academic hub and provides the missing link of evidence-based care between downtown academic institutions and GTA/other communities. The model can be generalizable to other academic institutions and communities, and serve as employment site for Pain Medicine Subspecialty certified physicians.

OTHER AUTHORS

John Flannery
Nimish Mittal