

Radiation Therapy Comorbidity

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Data Source: A review of patients admitted to the hospital or seen in a non-radiation therapy clinic in 2004 who had a radiation complication coded as part of their diagnosis was performed. Quality Management department ran a list of patients with ICD-9 codes related to radiation complications for calendar year 2004. The registry determined if they were treated locally.

Reason for Report: It had been inferred during Tumor Boards and other medical staff conferences that patients had a lot of radiation therapy related complications.

Findings: 19 patients were identified with a total of 39 instances ranging from a single report to 9 reports (from clinic notes). Of the 19 patients, 14 were treated at the Community Cancer Center.

Lung, bowel, and skin were mentioned as sites of radiation morbidity in the 14 patients. "Acute Pulmonary Manifestation due to Radiation" was listed for 8 patients. "Chronic Pulmonary Manifestation due to Radiation" was listed for 0 patients. "Radiation Gastroenteritis" was listed for 5 patients. "Dermatitis" was listed for 1 patient.

On review of the hospital, non-radiation clinic charts, an appropriate diagnosis was made for all patients.

Conclusions: On review of the radiation therapy chart, appropriate radiation doses and fields were delivered and the reported "side effects" would be expected based on dose and fields. There were no unexpected reactions or errors in treatment.

Recommendations: Run this report and review on bi-annual basis.