Rational Use of Dietary Supplements During Cancer Care

Surveys have shown that up to 90% of cancer patients are using dietary supplements but the majority of them do not discuss their use with the medical team. Oncology patients are particularly vulnerable to unrealistic appeals or to products of dubious quality. You may feel uncertain about directly addressing these issues with patients because of a lack of familiarity with the evidence on appropriate use and safety.

Please join Dr. Mary Hardy for a webinar on this very timely subject for oncology practice.

Characterization of oncology patients who use CAM will assist you to identify likely supplement users in your practice and to understand the goals they are trying to achieve. A case will be made that your participation increases the patient’s safety and can improve patient quality of life.

Using clinical cases, the key nutraceuticals with the best research base, will be covered. Strategies for the prevention or mitigation of troublesome symptoms such as mucositis, neuropathy, diarrhea, fatigue and cachexia will be discussed.

Dr. Hardy has over 25 years of experience melding integrative & conventional practice. She is a board certified internist and the recent past medical director of UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology. She is a recognized leader in her field serving as a current board member of the Society for Integrative Oncology and co-leader of the Oncology Interest Group in the Consortium of Academic Health Centers of Integrative Medicine. She has extensive experience in evaluating the evidence base for complementary medicine, in part, due to her work as a research associate at the RAND Corporation. Her projects there, sponsored by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, included assessing data for the safety of ephedra and the efficacy/safety of alternative cancer practices.

If you wish to discuss the implementation of integrative oncology in your practice, would like further information about the Society for Integrative Oncology or would like a PDF of her latest review article, you may reach Dr. Hardy at integonc@maryhardy.com. Please also join her on her website www.DrMaryHardy.com where you will find resources for patients, caretakers and practitioners.