Article

The 2014–2018 Oncology Nursing Society Research Agenda

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The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) developed its first Research Agenda in 2001 and has updated the agenda every four years. The dual purpose of the ONS Research Agenda is to determine priority topics for research consistent with the ONS mission to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care and to provide the ONS Foundation with the data needed to support the decision-making process for funding oncology nursing research. ONS identified content leaders and experts from the membership for the 2014–2018 Research Agenda Project Team. This team used a multimethod consensus-building approach that was informed by the results of the 2013 ONS Research Priorities Survey (Lobiondo-Wood et al., 2014), a comprehensive literature review, and a review of the national priorities for cancer and nursing research (see Figure 1). Since 2001, the ONS research priorities have reflected the disciplinary perspective of nursing and the mission of ONS. Management of physical and psychological symptoms, health promotion, patient and caregiver issues, end-of-life care, survivorship, and healthcare delivery systems have consistently shaped the Research Agenda. Dynamic progress in understanding the biology of cancer and identification of targets for therapeutic interventions have resulted in the widespread concept of personalized medicine to treat cancer. An understanding of both inter-patient variability and biologic mechanisms are equally important to interpretation of patient responses and to the development and testing of interventions. The increasing national emphasis on evidence-based practice and patient-centered care, as

Purpose/Objectives: To identify priority areas of research for the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Research Agenda for 2014–2018, consistent with ONS's mission to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care.

Data Sources: Review of the literature, 2013 ONS Research Priorities Survey, National Institute of Nursing Research, and the National Cancer Institute research foci.

Data Synthesis: Multimethod consensus-building approach by content leaders and content experts of the ONS Research Agenda Project Team.

Conclusions: The 2014–2018 Research Agenda Project Team identified eight high-priority research areas: symptoms, late effects of cancer treatment and survivorship care, palliative and end-of-life care, self-management, aging, family and caregivers, improving healthcare systems, and risk reduction. In addition, four cross-cutting themes were identified: biomarkers, bioinformatics, comparative effectiveness research, and dissemination and implementation science.

Implications for Nursing: The Research Agenda is a synthesis of the state of the science in cancer and identifies gaps and directions for the conduct and dissemination of research. Oncology nurses can use the agenda to inform clinical practice, develop research proposals, inform policy makers, support interdisciplinary research efforts, and promote scientist and clinician collaborations in targeted patient-centered research.

Key Words: oncology; nursing; research

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identified by Institute of Medicine reports related to cancer care and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, further support the research areas and cross-cutting themes. The 2014–2018 Research Agenda