Finding the time, resources, and supplies to develop patient education materials can be daunting for staff nurses, particularly as resources become more limited. Two committees, comprised of nurses, social workers, and other members of the multidisciplinary team, from the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) took a new approach to this challenge by using technology to develop and distribute storyboards for patient, family, and general public education. The Patient Education Working Group (PEWG), which focuses on systemwide patient education, in conjunction with the Cancer Awareness Committee, which focuses on community education, began developing 9- to 12-panel centrally distributed storyboards where patients with cancer are cared for across the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Health System (see Figure 1). UPMC Health System serves a primarily English-speaking community and offers care in urban, suburban, and rural areas across western Pennsylvania.

The use of posters, bulletin boards, and storyboards as educational strategies has been reported widely in the literature. Much attention has been paid to the construction of posters, particularly for staff development and research presentations.