

Goal: to improve physician-patient communication and shared decision-making and the role that patients, survivors, care partners, and healthcare professionals each play in that process.

ACTIONABLE APPROACHES TO UPDATING OUTDATED CLINICAL PRACTICES IN SCLC CARE

- **Optimize Treatment and Communication:**
 - There have been significant advances in the care of small cell lung cancer with new FDA approvals in the recent years.
 - Make sure you stay updated on evidence-based treatment options and clinical trials in your region, ensuring access to the most effective therapies.
- **Recognize the complexities and aggressive nature of SCLC.** Support patients through both curative and palliative pathways with empathy and precision.

“Make sure that patients understand their disease and caregivers are in line with our thorough, transparent communication. Ensure that patients feel they have the full team behind them. Patients need to know that this is a together journey. We walk together.” - **Nagashree Seetharamu, MD, MBBS**

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO PROVIDING PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

- Unlike non-small cell lung cancer, for SCLC, treatment options are limited, particularly for advanced cases. SCLC patients often have additional comorbidities that can complicate treatment decisions and impact quality of life.
- However, several strategies can be utilized to overcome these barriers.
 - Proactively screen for comorbidities that may impact SCLC treatment and consider tailored support for each patient.
 - Consider enrolling patients in clinical trials whenever appropriate.
 - Collaborate with other centers to enable co-management of patients on therapies that need escalated monitoring such as newly approved agent, tarlatamab-dlle (Imdelltra).
 - Advocate for inclusivity in clinical trial to enable more patients to enroll, particularly underserved and minority groups.

STRATEGIES FOR TREATMENT OPTIMIZATION IN EXTENSIVE-STAGE SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER

- **Focus on early intervention:** Less than 10% of patients who are candidates for lung cancer screening undergo appropriate low dose CT scan (LDCT). Since majority of patients with SCLC would be eligible for LDCT, optimal screening can lead to early diagnosis and improved outcomes.
- **Prioritize equitable access to resources and trials,** ensuring broad-based support and enhanced patient care.
- **Use a multidisciplinary approach to optimize outcomes,** including early palliative care integration to support both the patient and family.
- **Incorporate psychological and social support systems** to help manage the emotional and physical burden of SCLC.

“Don't write off your patients with small cell lung cancer. It's an aggressive disease and can be hard to manage. Really work with your patient to keep them on therapy, but while at the same time understanding what their goals of care are and continuing that discussion throughout your patient-provider journey. Continue to understand what their support systems are, what is important to them, and then that will help you and the patient make these treatment decisions along the way.”

- **Beth Sandy, MSN, CRNP**

SCLC EPEP PORTAL

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Access the Latest Resources

- The SCLC EPEP Portal provides a wealth of resources to improve physician-patient communication and shared decision-making.
- Use the portal as a hub for SCLC-specific resources to share with your patients, tailored to improve patient outcomes and streamline clinical decision-making.

Why Access EPEP Resources?

- Gain insights into best practices and the latest advancements in SCLC care.
- Access training that focuses on patient-centered approaches, ensuring a comprehensive approach to managing complex cases.

