

TITLE: Automatic Tobacco Assessment and Cessation Referral for Patients with Cancer

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RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION (brief overview of background, hypothesis, methods, role of medical student, funding and relevant publications)

Tobacco use remains the most preventable cause of death in the US and contributes significantly to the occurrence of chronic conditions. With funding from the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Foundation, scientists at the University of Florida (UF), Florida State University (FSU) and the University of Miami (UM), developed the OneFlorida Cancer Control Alliance (CCA). The purpose of the OneFlorida CCA is to reduce tobacco-related health disparities in Florida by enhancing the infrastructure available to conduct tobacco-related cancer research, particularly pragmatic clinical trials and implementation science studies.

The objective of the current study is to evaluate whether automated assessment and referral could increase enrollment by cancer patients in a tobacco cessation support service. A multilevel intervention will be designed to support oncology providers in implementing the 5As tobacco cessation intervention using: (1) automated screening and referrals to tobacco cessation services; (2) physician and office staff engagement in adapting the 5 As intervention to their settings; (3) use of health information technology (HIT) to manage screening and referrals; and (4) maintenance of certification (MOC) support for providers agreeing to participate in the study. We will measure practice characteristics including practice capacity for change, adaptive reserve, and HIT capabilities and clinician self-efficacy around the 5As at baseline, at 6 months into the intervention period, and at six months post study completion.

Medical students will work on all aspects of the study by documenting patient/provider conversation, training physicians about the referral process to AHEC and contributing to qualitative and quantitative analysis.