

Improving Quality of Oncology Rehabilitation as Multidisciplinary Approach



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Literature Review

- Cancer related lymphedema affects 1/5 of patients following cancer treatment (Gillespie et al., 2018)
- Lymphedema results from disruption of lymphatic system causing protein rich-fluid to accumulate in interstitial space
- Patients report lack of education from healthcare professionals regarding lymphedema (Otsby et al., 2017)
- Patients not guided on risk reduction, prevention, or proper management strategies.
- Use of pathways for specific diagnosis reduce clinical variation and lead to improved patient care (Seys et al., 2017)

DEI Site

- Providence Holy Cross Medical Center (PHCMC) is a non-profit Catholic community hospital connected to outpatient services
- Outpatient services includes a Lymphedema clinic which treats patients whose lymphatic systems are compromised due to cancer treatment, chronic venous insufficiency, trauma, etc.
- **Mission Statement**
"As expressions of Gods healing love, witness through the ministry of Jesus we are fast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable"

Summary Of Needs Assessment

- In person semi-structured interview to identify areas of need
1. A clinical pathway guideline (CPG) for lymphedema to establish uniformity of care amongst therapists
 2. Various educational modules and resources to increase overall patient care
 3. Increase compression garment retrieval for quicker initiation of care

Purpose

- Assess whether a CPG for lymphedema treatment at PHCMC will increase the quality of oncology care and promote uniformity amongst therapists
- Assess effectiveness of patient education modules regarding lymphedema management and overall carry over

Individualized Learning Objectives

1. Develop educational materials for patients that are readily accessible to therapists
2. Develop a clinical practice guideline for current practicing and/or new Lymphedema certified therapists at PHCMC following evidence-based research.
3. Participate in the facilitation of the growing lymphedema oncology departmental needs through interprofessional and interdepartmental collaboration.

Implementation

- Clinical Pathway Guideline Methods**
- Observation of multiple therapists for identification and collaboration of methods and approaches
 - Evidence-based research to justify best practice
 - Manual review and analysis of documentation
- Patient Education Modules Methods**
- Observation for identification of key concerns amongst patients
 - Collaborate with mentors to create self-management handouts
 - Utilization of evidence-based research and synthesized/upgraded current educational modules

Evaluation Methods

- Pretest/Posttest measure assessing clinician satisfaction with CPG and educational modules
- Likert-Scale questionnaire to obtain quantitative data

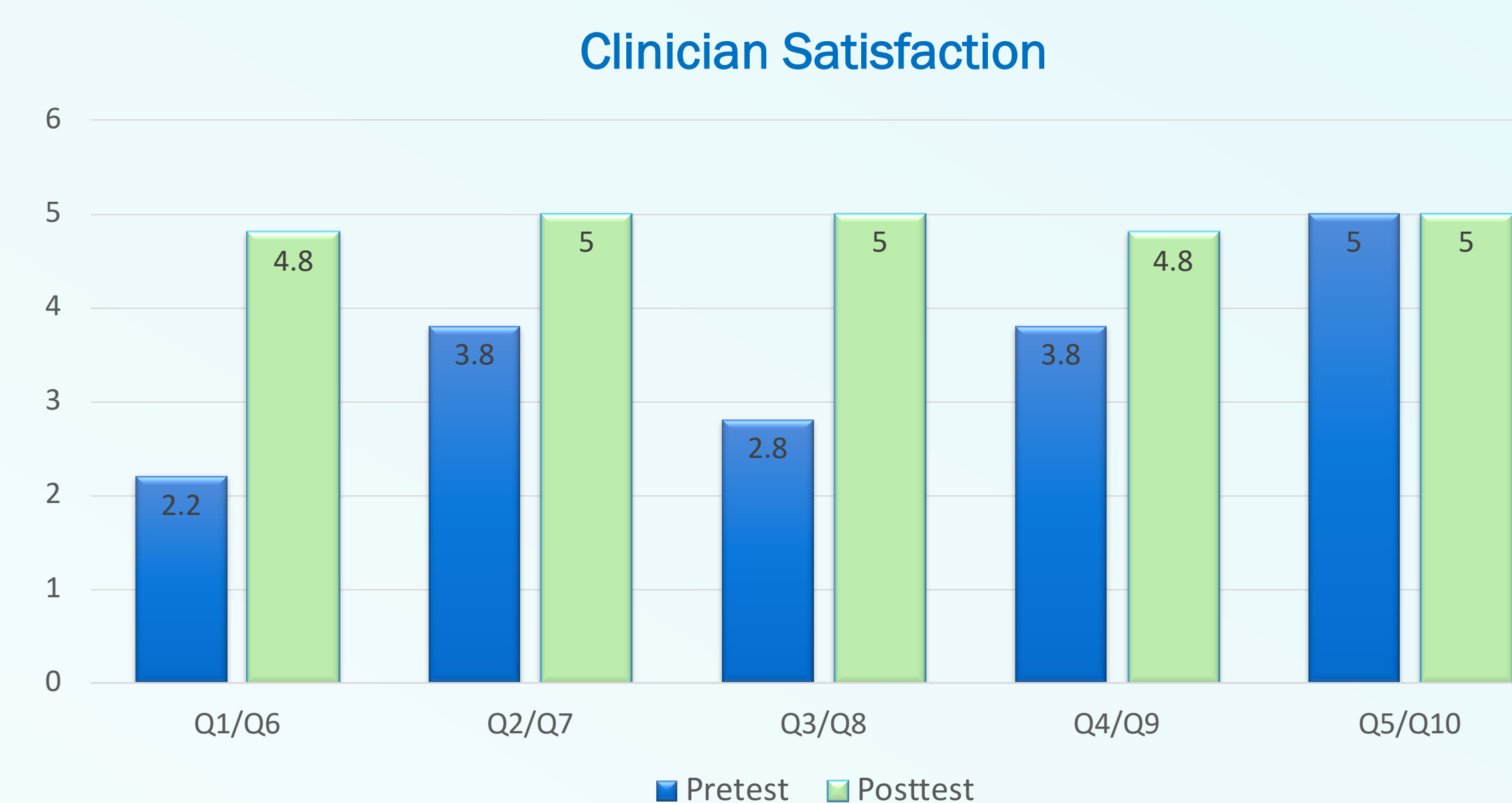
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am satisfied with the current patient educational modules I have	5	4	3	2	1
I give patients educational handouts after verbal instruction	5	4	3	2	1
I am able to locate relevant information in a timely manner prior to finishing my session	5	4	3	2	1
I have a good understanding of the evaluation requirements for each patient that is uniform to my colleagues	5	4	3	2	1
My facility will benefit from an elaborative document of client educational modules	5	4	3	2	1

Data Analysis

- Data was analyzed via Jeffery's Amazing Statistics Program (JASP)
- Mean scores were calculated for each question for pre/post-test measure utilizing descriptive statistics



Results



Limitations

- Limited time at DEI site
- Different training methods and techniques amongst therapists
- Lack of knowledge in the specialized area

Future Direction

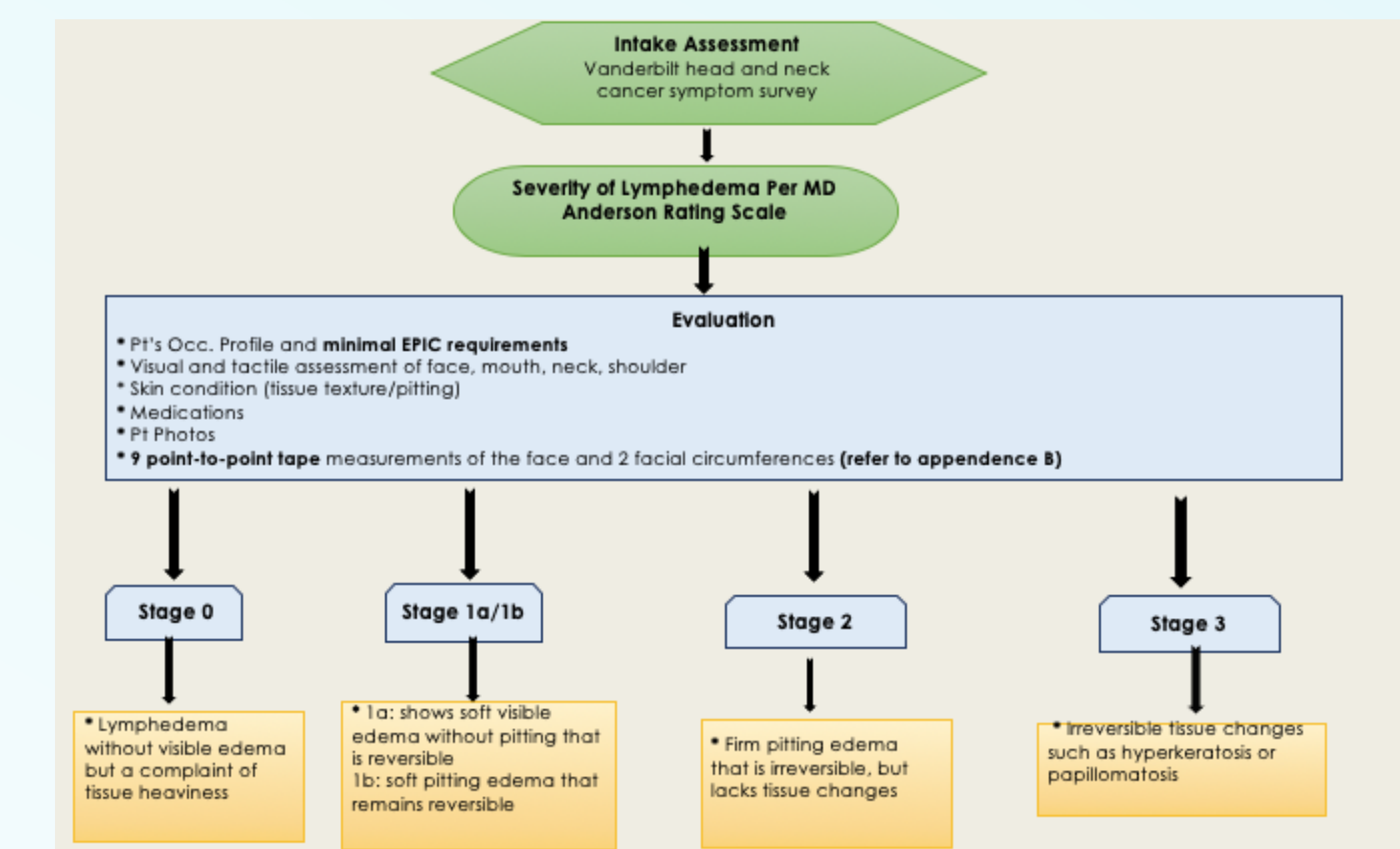
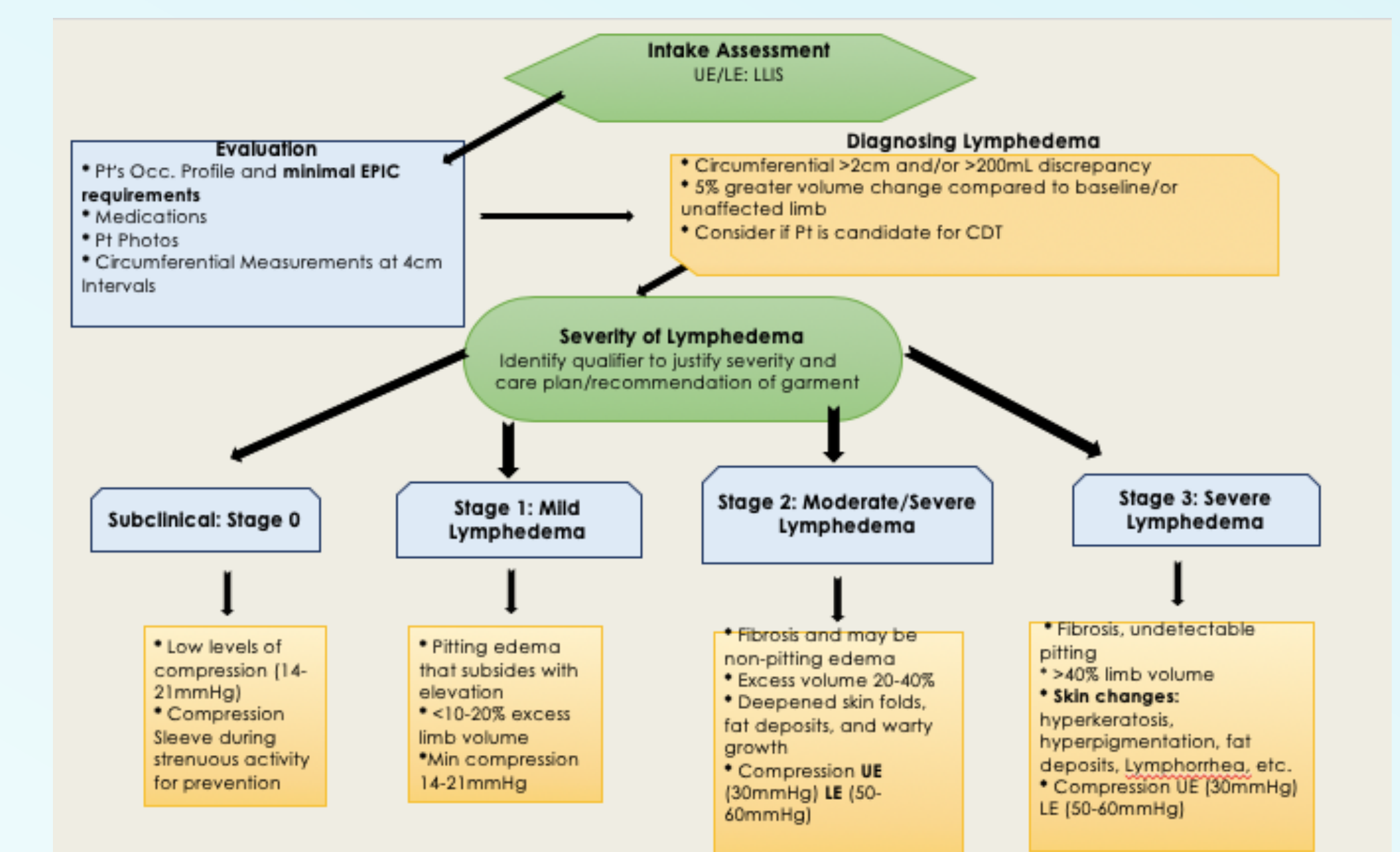
- Update educational modules and resources as new research arises
- Implement and utilize the handouts after verbal education
- Assess home program carryover utilizing handouts
- Implement CPG for all evaluations to develop congruency amongst therapists

Occupational Therapy Implications

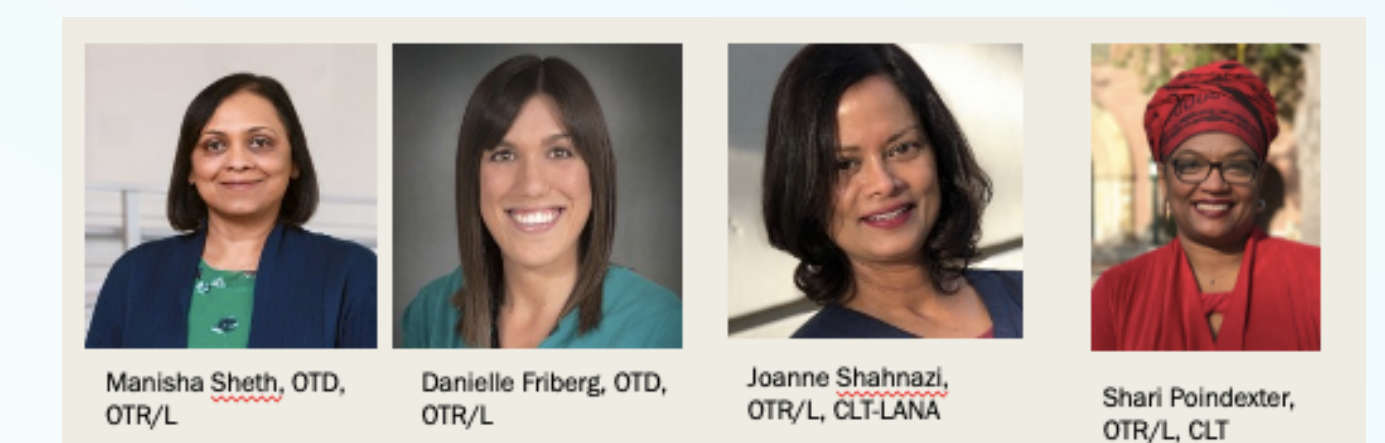
- Advocate, educate and empower patients through education
- OT's have the unique potential to facilitate reengagement and participation in everyday activities despite limitations from cancer treatment
- Provide psychosocial support to promote positive health

Scholarly Deliverables

1. Physical binder consisting of 8 chapters of educational resources with multiple sub headers within the chapters
2. Participating in interdepartmental and interprofessional meetings that focused on expanding the oncology/lymphedema department
3. Clinical pathway guideline focusing on head/neck and upper/lower extremity lymphedema evaluation and treatment methods.



Acknowledgments



References

- References available upon request