Standard 4.8 Quality Improvement Pancreas Radiology Template

Follow up on the 4.7 Study of Quality: Radiology Standards for Pancreatic Mass Evaluation and Staging study.

As part of Oncology quality improvement, Dept of Radiology had done a study on adherence to guidelines in the reporting of pancreatic cancer in 2017. Key areas where reporting needed to be improved and the ways to improve it were identified. As a result of this, a new template for reporting Pancreatic cancer has been implemented in August 2018.

Method:
This was a retrospective chart review of all the newly diagnosed pancreatic patients in the year 2018. Radiology reporting in each of the patient evaluated for adherence of the guidelines.

Of the 12 patients identified from tumor registry, 6 were excluded (3 pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor, 1 prior diagnosis of pancreatic cancer at outside facility, 1 Gastric cancer and 1 metastatic lung cancer to Pancreas).

Of the 6 patients evaluated, 2 were in the period after the implementation of the Radiology template.
Of the 6, specific radiologic requisition for pancreatic protocol study (CT 3 phase pancreas) was requested in 2 of the patients.

Results:

Reporting continues to be very adherent to guidelines in areas of discussing the pancreatic tumor, liver lesions, bile duct and pancreatic duct dilation, lymphadenopathy, patency of vasculature.
Study noted that the area lacking continued to be in the reporting of mesenteric arterial anatomy (one out of 6, 16%) and in Vascular abutment reporting (two out of 6, 33%). Both these measures seems to have improved (50% and 100% respectively) on the reporting done after August 2018, indicating the effect of new template.
Pancreatic cancer radiological reporting in the year 2018.

Actions taken since last year’s study:
  b. Awareness of 3 phase pancreatic protocol orders among physician.