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BTOG 2017 Abstract TORCH

An evaluation of a lung cancer research training for nurses: Thoracic Oncology Research from Concept to Home Run (TORCH)

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Background

The National Lung Cancer Forum for Nurses (NLCFN) is a UK professional organization of around 300 Lung Cancer Nurse Specialists (LCNSs) and research nurses. LCNSs are the multi-disciplinary team members who tend to see patients across the pathway. LCNSs and research nurses both make valuable contribution to research in lung cancer.

In 2015 the Shape of Caring report highlighted the need to develop a research culture in nursing.[1] However, research career pathways and opportunities are not as well defined for nurses, as they are for doctors.[2] The NLCFN collaborated with Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd (BIL) to develop a research workshop for LCNSs and Research Nurses called 'TORCH for Nursing'. A Faculty of leading academic nurses were involved in delivery.

18 delegates attended the first BIL-TORCH for Nursing Workshop in April 2016.

Methods

An e-survey one week and six months after the TORCH workshop.

Results

78% (n=14) responded to the one week survey. Findings indicated an increase in knowledge, understanding and confidence in research methods and skills. Participant reported an increased ability to develop networks to facilitate research and an ability to develop a research question or proposal.

Findings from the 6 months follow-up will be reported. Data will be collected in October 2016.

Two project groups were established with Faculty members and delegates to develop fundable proposals. Topics are 1) Living with and beyond lung cancer 2)

The impact of the lung cancer research nurse on patient experience. Progress will be reported.

Conclusion
BIL-TORCH for Nursing made an impact on participant's research abilities and motivation. It will be repeated and evaluated in 2017. Outputs from the project groups will be monitored as evidence of impact, including publications and grant applications.

Word count 280. Max 300

1. Health Education England (2015) Raising the bar: The shape of caring https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2348-Shape-of-caring-review-FINAL_0.pdf. Accessed June 2015

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