

# **IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE**

## **Palliative Care Intervention for Caregivers of Lung Cancer Patients**

*Using an Evidence-Based Program to develop  
a process model for program delivery in the practice setting*

**Note:** Refer to “Putting Public Health Evidence in Action”. Review the appropriate Modules and the handouts provided in each, in order to modify and evaluate this program to meet the needs of your organization and audience.

“Putting Public Health Evidence in Action” is available online at:  
<http://cpcrn.org/pub/evidence-in-action/>

### **I. Program Administration (Type of Staffing and Functions Needed)**

#### **Advanced Practice Nurse**

- Completes baseline assessments for family caregivers (FCGs) and teaches educational sessions on quality of life concerns in lung cancer.

#### **Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)**

- Makes recommendations for consultations or referrals for supportive care services for caregivers. The IDT is a team of nurses, palliative medicine physicians, thoracic surgeons, medical oncologists, a geriatric oncologist, a pulmonologist, a social worker, a chaplain, a dietitian, and a physical therapist.

### **II. Program Delivery**

**For additional information on modifying program materials, refer to the appropriate Module(s) for program adaptation from “Putting Public Health Evidence in Action”.**

#### **A. Program Materials (*All listed materials can be viewed and/or downloaded from the RTIPs Products Page*):**

- **Palliative Care for Family Caregivers of Patients Living With Lung Cancer:** This 263-page manual for caregivers covers quality of life concerns including physical, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being and the role of family caregivers in meeting patient needs and in self-care.
- **PC1 Interdisciplinary Care Plan:** This 6-page form is used to summarize FCG needs based on the initial assessment and is used in the IDT meetings to plan care.

## **B. Program Implementation:**

The steps used to implement this program are as follows:

Step 1: A nurse assesses the FCG's needs using standardized measures.

Step 2: The FCG's needs are presented to an interdisciplinary team and a plan of care is developed and implemented.

Step 3: A nurse teaches the FCG about various aspects of quality of life depending on the FCG's concerns.

## **III. Program Evaluation**

**For additional information on planning and adapting an evaluation, review the appropriate Modules for program implementation and evaluation from “Putting Public Health Evidence in Action”.**

<http://cpcrn.org/pub/evidence-in-action/>

For further assistance in designing and conducting an evaluation, consider communicating with members of NCI's Research to Reality (R2R) Community of Practice who may be able to help you with your research efforts. Following is a link to start an online discussion with the R2R community of practice, after completing registration on the R2R site:

<https://researchtoquality.cancer.gov/discussions>.