

# Identifying strategies for comprehensive survivorship program implementation: A qualitative analysis of cancer programs

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## INTRODUCTION

- The Commission on Cancer (CoC) seeks to promote comprehensive approaches to implementing survivorship programs.
- Cancer programs' approaches range from cursory (e.g., developing care plans without robust services) to comprehensive (e.g., facilitating follow-up care).
- Guidelines lack recommendations for implementation and thus cancer programs struggle to implement guidelines from different entities.

## OBJECTIVE

- Identify strategies that cancer programs used to develop comprehensive approaches to implementing cancer survivorship programs.



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Comprehensive

- Systemized processes
- Formal committee(s)
- Buy-in from stakeholders
- Designated roles

Cursory

- Inconsistent survivorship care processes
- Resistance from stakeholders
- Persistent structural challenges



A majority of comprehensive cancer programs had pre-existing infrastructure to utilize implementation strategies.

## DATA COLLECTION

Semi-structured interviews with providers/staff (n=42) in 39 cancer programs regarding implementation strategies of survivorship programs.

## QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Developed the codebook with a priori codes using LIVESTRONG elements for comprehensive survivorship care (dependent variable) and a subset of Expert Recommendations for Implementing Change (ERIC) strategies (independent variables).
- We used template analysis to identify strategies unique to cancer programs with comprehensive approaches by qualitatively comparing them to cancer programs with cursory approaches.
- Four coders initially co-coded to ensure consistency and then independently coded the transcripts.

## IMPLICATIONS

- Study findings provide insight to more than 1500 CoC-accredited U.S. cancer programs.
- Accrediting bodies and health policy should support cancer programs to ensure strategies could be operationalized.
- Future research should examine how identified trajectories relate to the cancer programs in diverse context.

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