Supervisor/Project Information Form

Due February 14 2018 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

PLEASE SUBMIT IN WORD FORMAT ONLY. PDF will not be accepted

Supervisor Name: Dr. Geoffrey Liu / Dr. Doris Howell
Hospital/Research Institution: Princess Margaret Cancer Centre - University Health Network (UHN)
Email: Geoffrey.liu@uhn.ca

Field of Research (2 keywords): Oncology, Patient Reported Outcomes

Department: Division of Medical Oncology, Department of Medicine
School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? Yes/No: Yes
If YES, please name: SGS Appointments, Medical Biophysics and IMS (University of Toronto) and Epidemiology (Dalla Lana School of Public Health), Full SGS appointments in both Departments.

Project Title: Feasibility Testing of the LifeguardRx Mobile App to Report Real-Time Symptoms and Toxicities of Cancer Patients Undergoing Systemic and Chemotherapy: Knowledge Translation Research

Brief Project Description (<300 words):
We are really excited about this project. In 2016, Basch et al reported significant improvement in quality of life, reduction in emergency visits, and improved survival in cancer patients who used real-time reporting of symptoms/toxicities. How does one translate the knowledge gained in this clinical trial to routine clinical practice? Our patients self-manage their symptoms 99% of the time at home; so when should they call us? A phone/mobile application(app) can help. This project will test a phone-app developed at UHN that collects routine symptom/toxicity data for our patients at home, and triages them to call in with a click of a button when certain symptom severity thresholds are reached. The student will be in our cancer outpatient clinics to train patients/caregivers how to use the app, and collect data to evaluate potential barriers to implementation and outcomes before and after the app has been implemented in clinic, using the CIHR KTA framework, and observe toxicity management in clinic, urgent-care, emergency-room, and on wards.

The student will be part of an integrated program that includes didactic teaching, seminars and workshops, individual and small group teaching. Past successful summer CREMS students have presented their research at national/international conferences, and have been co-authors of publications. Please refer to www.uhncombiel.com for program details. The program will train the student to refine research questions into actionable hypotheses, to operationalize the research and deal with quality control, bias and confounding. The student will have field research experience, clinical exposure of patient decision-making and treatment management, and will perform systematic clinico-research evaluation of the electronic medical chart, active data management and analyses, data interpretation and visualization, and statistical analysis. This comprehensive training program is anchored also by Cathi Brown (Epidemiologist) and Dr. Wei Xu (Biostatistician) to round out the training experience.

295 words