

Incorporating Checkpoint Inhibitors into Cancer Care: A study of the impact of digital education on clinical competence and practice patterns

Authors: Tariqa Ackbarali, PhD(c)¹; Brian I. Rini, MD, FASCO²; Michael J. Overman, MD³; Ignacio I. Wistuba, MD³
 1 - PlatformQ Health; 2 - Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center; 3 - The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



INTRODUCTION

Immune checkpoint inhibitors have transformed the treatment landscape for a variety of tumors and have significantly improved patient prognosis and longevity. Evolving practice standards for diagnostic testing and extensive emerging clinical trial data have left clinicians challenged to apply newer treatments in practice and manage associated side effects. Additionally, improved patient prognosis has created a greater need for survivorship care plans; clinicians must be able to tailor plans to the needs of patients treated with these agents. Education pertaining to biomarker testing, applications of checkpoint inhibitors, adverse event management, and survivorship care is critical to ability to improve patient experience and quality of life.

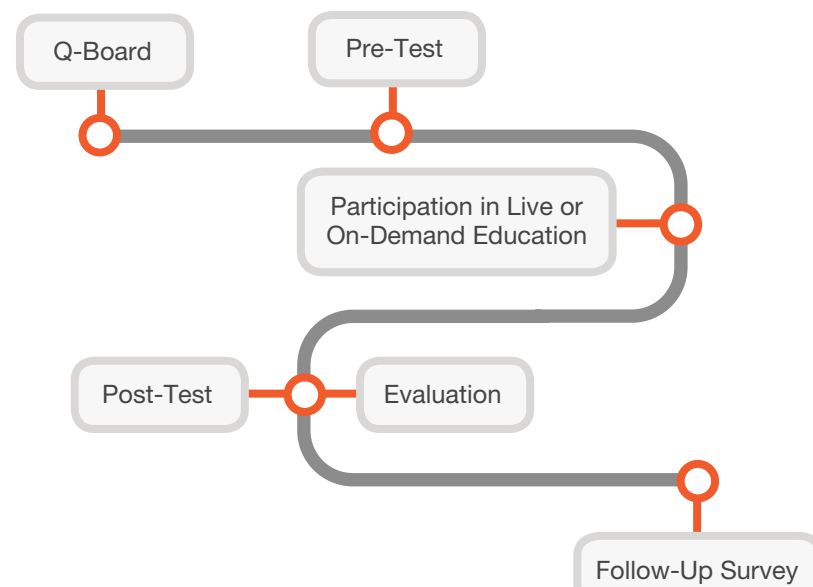


METHODS

Educational Program Details

Educational Impact Measurement

Knowledge and competence questions were administered pre-, immediate post-, and 2 mos. post-activity. Behavioral impact questions were also asked at follow-up. Data from these questions were analyzed to determine engagement and clinical impact.



Program Themes:

- Session 1 (June, 2020)**
Biomarker usage for checkpoint inhibitor selection
- Session 2 (July, 2020)**
Adverse event management
- Session 3 (July, 2020)**
Survivorship care
- Session 4 (August, 2020)**
Checkpoint inhibitors and combination therapies in the metastatic setting

Format

- A 4-hour CME activity was broadcast live-online in June, July, and August 2020 and remained on-demand through February 2021 at OMedLive.com
- The activities featured downloadable educational slides, panel discussions, live polling, and live Q&A
- Learners encouraged to submit questions before and during the live programs

Accredited Provider

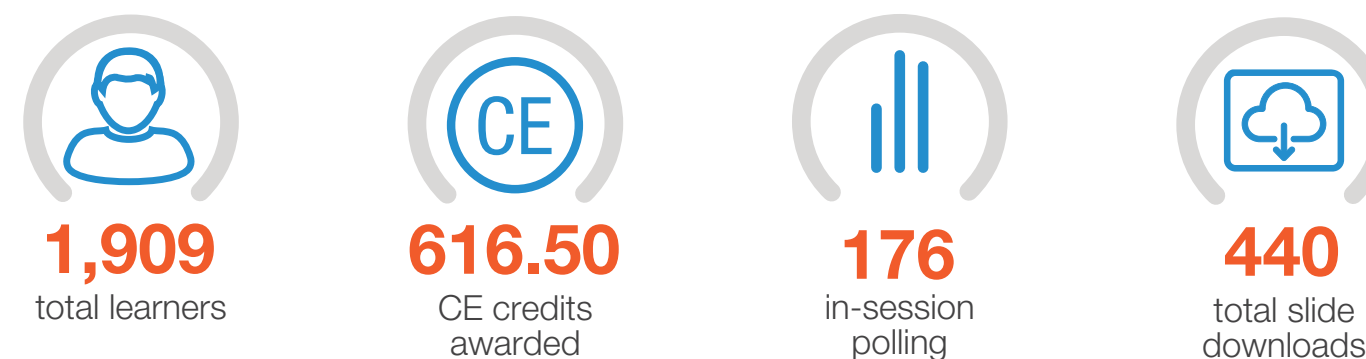
Postgraduate Institute for Medicine

Collaborative Partner

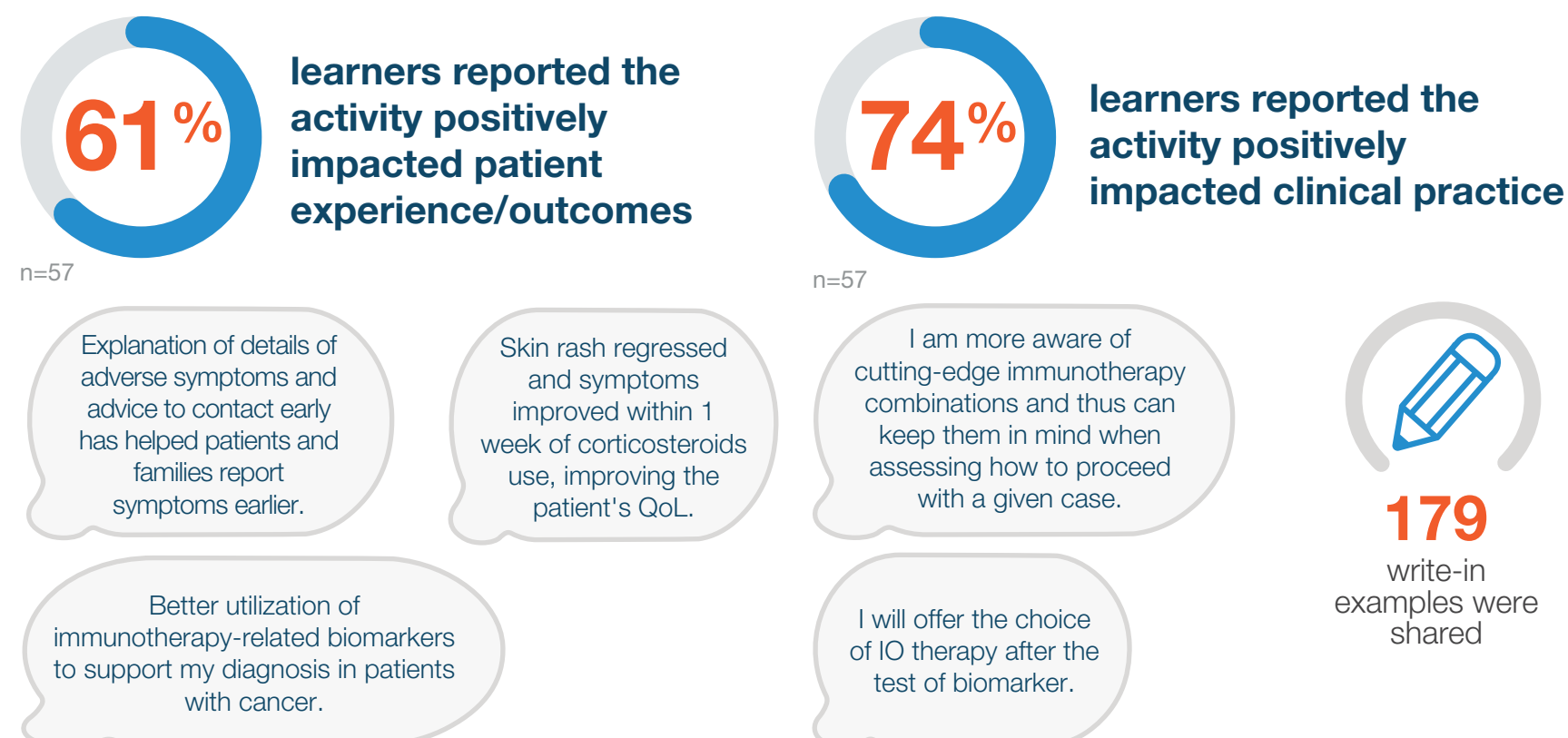
Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

FINAL RESULTS (PROGRAM ON-DEMAND THROUGH 2/28/21)

Learners and Engagement

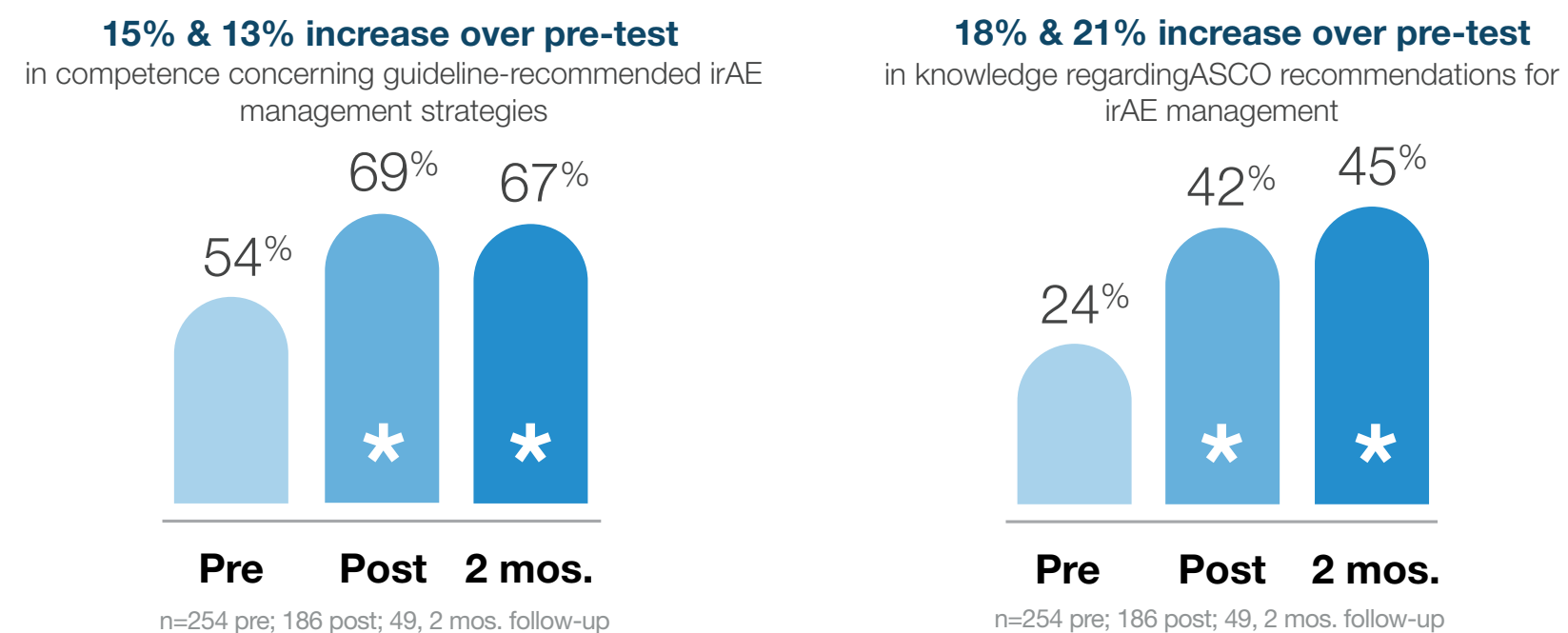


Positive Impact on Patient Outcomes and Clinical Practice



Changes in Knowledge/Competence

5 competence and 9 knowledge questions were posed pre and post education. All 14 questions showed statistically significant improvements post-education.

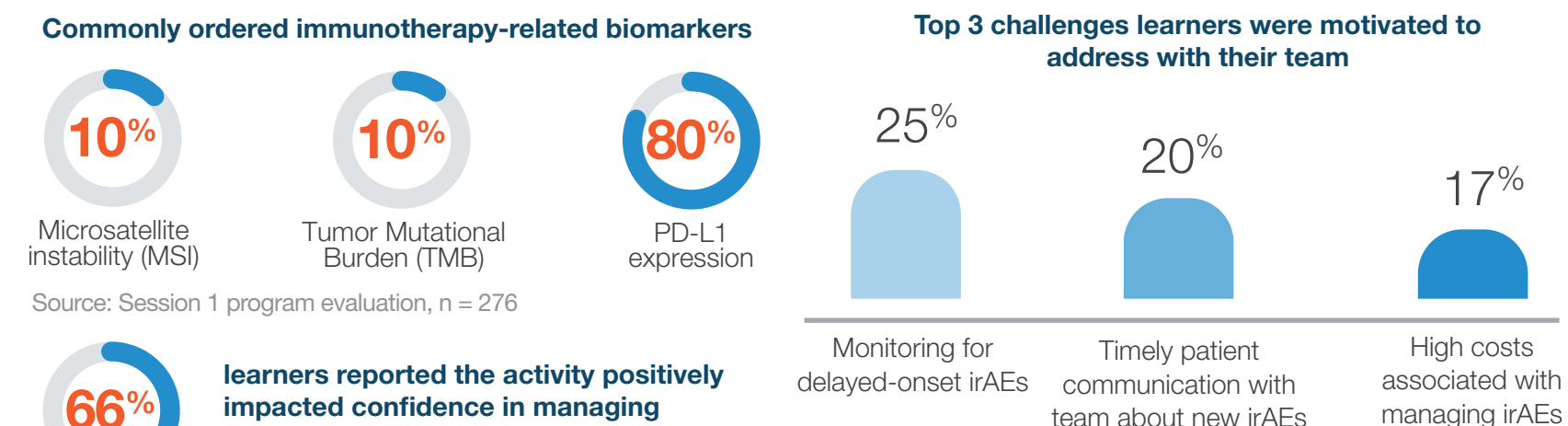


4 statistically significant improvements; p<.05, matched learners, comparison of pre to post and pre to 2 mos follow up results. Please note that all post-test data shown is reflective of 1st attempt results

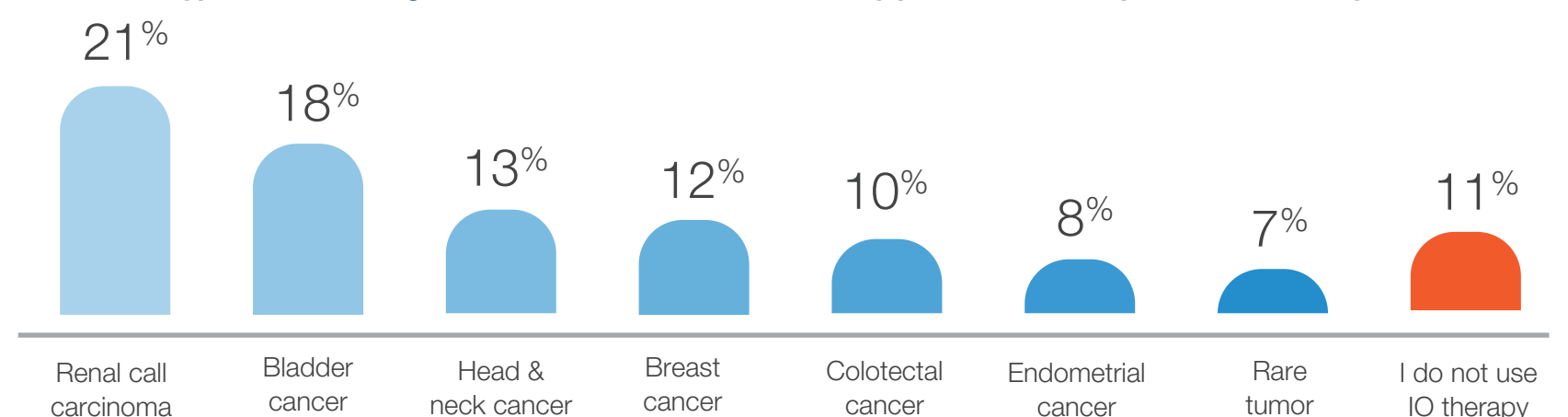
RESULTS (CONT.)

Practice Pattern Insights

Treatment team preferences were elucidated from practice pattern questions across the educational series.



Which tumor types, besides lung and melanoma, are most commonly prescribed checkpoint inhibitors at your institution?



Source: Session 4 program evaluation, n = 183; multiple responses permitted

Top 5 challenges managing a patient on an immune checkpoint inhibitor



Source: Session 4 program evaluation, n = 178; multiple responses permitted

CONCLUSION

Conclusions & Future Educational Targeting

The educational initiative was successful in improving clinician understanding of the use of biomarker testing to determine treatment plans, applications of checkpoint inhibitors and combination therapies, adverse event management, and survivorship care planning. Open-ended responses to behavioral impact questions illustrated clear improvements in clinician-reported patient impacts, including improved psychological tolerance of treatment, quality of life, and overall wellness.

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Bristol Myers Squibb, Celgene Corporation, Genentech, and Tesaro, A GSK Company.