

Joint event on

World Congress on **Breast Cancer**
&
5th International Conference on
Vascular Biology & Surgeons Meeting

February 25-26, 2019 London, UK

Multidisciplinary patient navigation program improves compliance with adjuvant therapy

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Cancer health disparities affecting low-income and minority patients have been well documented as leading to poor outcomes. This report examines the impact of patient navigation on adherence to prescribed adjuvant breast cancer treatment. A Multidisciplinary Patient Navigation Program was initiated at a public safety net hospital to improve compliance with three National Quality Forum (NQF) measures: 1) Administration of combination chemotherapy for women with Stage (defined by the American Joint Committee on Cancer, AJCC) T1c, II, or III hormone receptor negative (HRN) breast cancer within 120 days, and 2) Administration of endocrine therapy (HT) for women with AJCC Stage T1c, II, or III hormone receptor positive breast cancer (HRP) within 365 days. 3) Radiation therapy (xRT) for women receiving breast conserving surgery (BCS) within one year. Implementation of a multidisciplinary patient navigation program reduced time to treatment and improved compliance with adjuvant therapy for breast cancer in an underserved minority community.

Biography

Maria Castaldi currently working in the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, new York. Her research interest is Breast cancer.

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