



TREATING PATIENTS BASED ON OVERALL HEALTH, NOT AGE

Cancer researchers launch effort eliminate age limits for older, 'healthier' patients

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute

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SUGGESTED TEASE	A NEW APPROACH TO CANCER CARE THAT TREATS AGE AS JUST ANOTHER NUMBER. HOW THAT COULD HELP MILLIONS IN THE COMING YEARS, NEXT IN HEALTH NEWS.
ANCHOR LEAD	<p>BY 2030, CANCER CASES IN THE U.S. ARE EXPECTED TO SKYROCKET BY 55-PERCENT.¹</p> <p>MOST OF THOSE CASES WILL BE IN OLDER AMERICANS, WHICH HAS SOME DOCTORS WORRIED.</p> <p>ASSUMING MOST OLDER PATIENTS ARE TOO FRAIL TO TOLERATE MORE AGGRESSIVE TREATMENTS, MANY HOSPITALS PUT AGE LIMITS ON CERTAIN THERAPIES.</p> <p>BUT AS CLARK POWELL SHOWS US, ONE HOSPITAL IS CHANGING THE WAY THEY EVALUATE PATIENTS, BY LOOKING AT THEIR <i>OVERALL HEALTH AND LEVEL OF FITNESS</i> - NOT JUST THEIR AGE.</p>
	(Nats - Starting car) :02
<p>CG: Courtesy: The Ohio State James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute</p> <p>Shots of Fred backing out car</p> <p>Shots of Fred checking the oil</p>	<p>FRED CUBBISON HAS GREAT AFFECTION FOR HIS 1965 MUSTANG. EVEN THOUGH IT'S OLDER, IT'S IN GREAT SHAPE AND STILL HAS A LOT OF MILES LEFT ON IT.</p> <p>WHEN FRED WAS DIAGNOSED WITH A TYPE OF BLOOD CANCER CALLED MULTIPLE MYELOMA, HE WAS HOPING DOCTORS WOULD LOOK AT HIM THE SAME WAY - ALTHOUGH HE HAD CONCERNS ABOUT GETTING CHEMO. :16</p>
<p>CG: Fred Cubbison Treated for cancer at age 70</p> <p>Shots of Fred in woodshed</p> <p>Shots of chemo treatment</p>	<p>"I was 70 years old at the time, and they said 'Well, normally we don't do anybody over 65.'" :06 / :22</p> <p>BUT FRED ISN'T JUST <i>ANYBODY</i> OVER 65. HE'S STILL EXTREMELY ACTIVE, HE GOLFS, CHOPS WOOD AND MANAGES A FARM.</p> <p>UNFORTUNATELY, WHEN IT COMES TO CANCER TREATMENTS, MANY DOCTORS OFTEN SET AGE LIMITS FOR MORE AGGRESSIVE THERAPIES. :12 / :34</p>
<p>CG: Dr. Ashley Rosko Ohio State's James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute</p>	<p>"We know that older patients benefit from chemotherapy. We also know that older adults are undertreated in cancer care." :06 / :40</p>

<p>Shots of Dr. Rosko with patient</p> <p>Exterior of hospital</p> <p>Shots of older patient in treatment</p> <p>Shots of patient in exam</p>	<p>SO DOCTOR ASHLEY ROSKO AND HER COLLEAGUES ARE CHANGING THAT. AT OHIO STATE'S JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ONE OF THE FIRST CLINICS IN THE COUNTRY IS NOW OPEN, DEDICATED TO TREATING PATIENTS BASED ON THEIR OVERALL HEALTH AND FITNESS LEVEL - <i>NOT</i> THEIR AGE.</p> <p>IN ONE VISIT, PATIENTS CAN SEE UP TO 6 SPECIALISTS TO GAUGE EVERYTHING FROM THEIR PHYSICAL TO MENTAL HEALTH TO THEIR NUTRITION. :19 / :59</p>
<p>Dr. Rosko (CG'd earlier)</p>	<p>"What we're doing in the clinic is really to be able to preventatively put a plan in for patients and put this structure together so that patients can do well and minimize the toxicities of their chemotherapy plan." :11 / 1:10</p>
<p>Shots of researcher working in lab</p> <p>Shots of machine testing blood</p> <p>Shots of Fred taking pill</p>	<p>RESEARCHERS ARE ALSO STUDYING A PROTEIN IN THE LAB CALLED P-16 THAT MAY SHOW HOW HEALTHY YOU'VE BEEN THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE AND HELP DOCTORS DETERMINE YOUR TREATMENT.</p> <p>FOR FRED, THAT WAS CHEMO AND A STEM CELL TRANSPLANT. TODAY, HE SIMPLY TAKES A PILL FOR MAINTENANCE - ALL OF WHICH MANY NOT HAVE BEEN AN OPTION ANYWHERE ELSE. :16 / 1:26</p>
<p>Fred Cubbison (CG'd earlier)</p>	<p>"I went through this with flying colors. I was the model student up there on that floor at that time because I really, really did well." :08/1:34</p>
<p>Shot of Fred with Mustang</p>	<p>AT OHIO STATE'S JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, THIS IS CLARK POWELL REPORTING. :04 / 1:38</p>
<p>ANCHOR TAG</p>	<p>THE CLINIC EVEN TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THINGS LIKE A PATIENT'S SOCIAL LIFE AND THEIR SUPPORT STRUCTURE.</p> <p>GIVEN THE NUMBER OF OLDER AMERICANS EXPECTED TO GET A CANCER DIAGNOSIS IN THE NEXT FEW DECADES, DOCTORS SAY WE NEED GUIDELINES THAT MAXIMIZE TREATMENT REGARDLESS OF AGE.</p>
<p> Share it! Suggested tweet:</p>	<p>New clinic @OSUCCC James is one of the first to treat cancer patients based on fitness, not just age. bit.ly/1PLT4A1</p>
<p> Suggested post:</p>	<p>A new clinic is changing cancer care by focusing less on a patient's age and more on their fitness level. For years, most hospitals set age limits for treatments like chemotherapy, assuming older patients would be too frail to tolerate them. But a new clinic at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute is changing that. See their new approach to evaluating patients and how it could help millions in the coming years: bit.ly link here</p>
<p>References -</p>	<p>¹<i>Number of US Cancer Cases Expected to Rise 55 Percent Higher</i></p>

	<p>by 2030, American Institute of Cancer Research, February 2012. http://www.aicr.org/press/press-releases/us-cancer-cases-rising.htm ?referrer=https://www.google.com/</p>
	<p>Extra Bites</p>
<p>CG: Dr. Ashley Rosko Ohio State James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute</p>	<p><i>Dr. Rosko talks about focusing on a patient's "biological" age -</i> "Once we have a better sense of their physiologic age we can use that to gauge treatment decisions in cancer. So, we can decide on a more intense therapy for someone who is biologically younger or a less intensive therapy for someone who's biologically older."</p> <p><i>Dr. Rosko talks about changing how patients are evaluated for therapy -</i> "Age alone is not the way to decide whether or not a patient should get a transplant. We have better therapy that allows their disease to be put into remission. We have better supportive care during the transplant that allows the patient to be successful."</p> <p><i>Dr. Rosko explains how the new clinic works -</i> "The patient comes into the clinic and they're seen by up to six providers to be able to identify factors that contribute to cancer toxicities, and to intervene upon those to allow the patient to have a successful course during the chemotherapy time."</p> <p><i>Dr. Rosko talks about research into the P16 protein -</i> "In the research lab we're looking at specific genes and we're looking at expression of a specific protein called P16. And P16, when it's higher, it's been shown that those patients may have experienced more stress over the course of their lifetime, and stress that has influenced their health."</p>
<p>CG: Fred Cubbison Treated for cancer at age 70</p>	<p><i>Fred talks about the therapy he got for multiple myeloma -</i> "It went very well, I didn't get sick. I only had the chemo treatment one day. A heavy, heavy dose one day before my actual transplant."</p> <p><i>Fred talks about his activity level -</i> "I did a lot of stuff on my brother's farm here, stayed active, started playing a lot of golf and just mowing a lot and just different things, but I stayed active."</p> <p><i>Fred talks about his approach to a more aggressive therapy -</i> "I felt good about going into this and had a good attitude on it and, you said, said everything's going to be great. I've got these 8 grandkids that I've got to watch play sports and stuff and I just never had a question about what they were doing."</p> <p><i>Fred equates his therapy to restoring an old car that's still in good shape -</i> "This car is something that I've brought back to life, you might say, and the doctors brought me back to good health."</p>
<p>Producers & Reporters:</p>	<p>To download scripts, video and photos go to: http://james.multimedianewsroom.tv</p>

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The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center: 1-800-293-5123
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Produced by:



1800 West 5th Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43212
Phone: (614) 932-9950 Fax: (614) 932-9920
www.mediasourcetv.com

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Media Relations Department: (614) 293-3737**