



FOUNDATIONS OF INTEGRATIVE ONCOLOGY

Bonus Module

Recognizing Oncologic Emergencies

Oncologic Emergencies are clinical conditions resulting from a metabolic, neurologic, cardiovascular, hematologic, and/or infectious change **caused by cancer or its treatment** that **requires immediate intervention to prevent loss of life or quality of life.**

50% Disease Related – 50% Treatment Related

- **Awareness of a patient's cancer history and its possible complications**
- **Prompt identification of and intervention**
- **Oncologic emergencies can occur at any time**
- **YOU may be the clinician who first observes early signs and symptoms of oncology and medical emergencies that require immediate medical intervention**

Oncologic Emergencies

- Neurologic Emergencies
- Cardiovascular Emergencies
- Respiratory Emergencies
- Genitourinary Emergencies
- Gastrointestinal Emergencies
- Metabolic Emergencies
- SIADH (Syndrome of Inappropriate Secretion of Antidiuretic Hormone)
- Hematologic Emergencies
- Hemostatic Emergencies
- Chemotherapy-Induced Emergencies

Subtle Signs May Mask Cancer-Related Emergencies

- Unexplained weight loss
- Unexplained fatigue
- Persistent pain
- Hemorrhage (rectal or vaginal bleeding, hemoptysis)
- Shortness of breath (pulmonary embolism)
- Spinal cord compression
 - a. New weakness
 - b. New onset of progressive back pain
 - c. Urinary retention
 - d. Urinary or bowel incontinence
 - e. Sensory or motor symptoms in extremities

References

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