It is vitally important that a patient who is interested in reproductive options / fertility meets with an oncofertility clinic as soon as possible. Fertility diminishes with many onco-therapies/treatments and the process of fertility must happen before onco therapy. If a patient is an advanced stage, this may not be feasible.

# Start With

Asking the patient the below questions

Has the doctor spoken to vou about if or how cancer treatment may affect your ability to have children?

Wouldyouor vour partner like further information on ability to have children?

## **Approach**

If patient has not started drug treatment, provide contact information for fertility preservation and encourage patient to have appointment as soon as possible and before treatment.

If drug treatment has started. encourage the patient to discuss with their physician how the treatment may affect fertility.

Even if patient does not want further information, inform them that there are available resources that can be provided to them and/or their partner in the event they decide they would like additional information and that the options change after drug treatment is started.

If there is a partner, determine if the partner needs any supports.

## Next Step

Refer to treating Physician/APC

Set up appointment with onco-fertility clinic to discuss reproductive options. This may require external referral. Note, Livestronghasspecific fertility resources that they provide to young adults (link below)

Refer to Psycho social If needed

Refer to Chaplain if needed

Share Patient Links and Handouts as appropriate

See Reference links below for additional information

#### **Timing**

Same Day if possible if there are concerns about fertility being preserved and drug treatment has not started or if the patient and/or partner are experiencing significant emotional distress, this will require immediate attention

Routine - within 1 week: If there is no immediate treatment planned and/or no significant emotional distress

## Local Resources

- Northwestern Medicine Fertility and Reproductive Medicine
- Northwestern Patient Navigator for Fertility Preservation
- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Fertility & Hormone Preservation & Restoration Program 312-926-2000
- UI Health, Fertility Preservation Program

Fertility Hotline 312-503-3378

312-503-3378

312-355-2634

# **Patient Links and Handouts:**

- American Cancer Society, Female Fertility and Cancer
- American Cancer Society. Male Fertility and Cancer
- LIVESTRONG, Parenthood Options for Men and Parenthood Options for Women
- Cancer.Net. Fertility Concerns and Preservation for Women
- Cancer.Net. Fertility Concerns and Preservation for Men.
- NIH, Sexual Health Issues and Fertility Issues (Women)
- NIH, Sexual Health Issues and Fertility Issues (Men)

CSOC Patient Handout can be accessed at: http://cancer-help.me/have-children

## References:

- ASCO. Dating. Sex and Reproduction
- Romao, Rodrigo L.P., and Armando J. Lorenzo, "Fertility Preservation Options for Children and Adolescents with Cancer." Canadian Urological Association Journal 11.1-2Suppl1 (2017): S97-S102. PMC. Web. 19 Sept. 2017.
- Oncofertility: A New Medical Specialty Helping Young Cancer Patients Have Children
- The Oncofertility® Consortium

