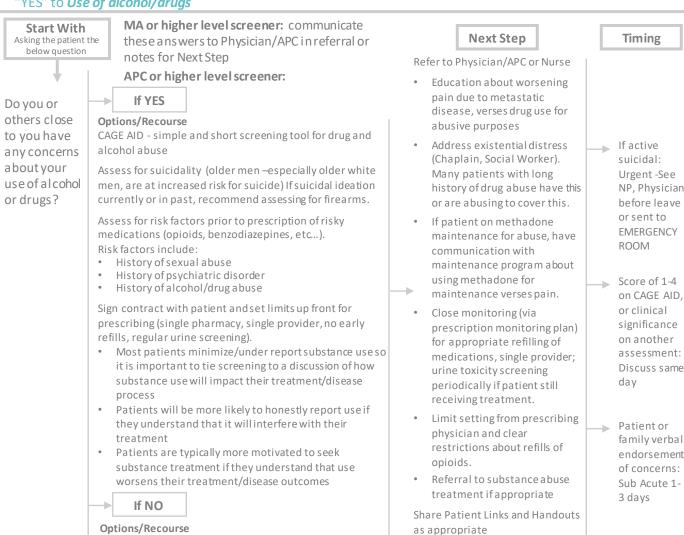
Clinician Follow Up Reference for Supportive Care **Physical Concerns** –

"YES" to Use of alcohol/drugs



Stages I-III: Substance use concerns require referral to a therapist who specializes in addictions. This cannot be adequately addressed by oncology therapists who do not have an addiction specialty. Discuss taper plan and expectations up front if patient does require a risky medication. Utilize other analgesics/atypical analgesics, interventional pain management more readily.

Stage IV: For a patient on hospice/imminently dying, discuss realistic expectations with patient and family about ability to stop alcohol/drugs/tobacco. May not be the right time to detox from these things and may cause more harm (i.e. withdrawalin an imminently dying patient). In these cases, discuss safety measures (no O2 with smoking, falls with alcohol consumption), minimize polypharmacy. Treatment team needs the information on any alcohol/drug issues to allow for best approach in treating/monitoring patient.

Geriatric: This population CAN have issues with this and should not be dismissed as a possibility. Due to their age, tend to have a low er tolerance and should be assessed and treated accordingly.

Patient Links and Handouts:

American Cancer Society. Alcohol use and Cancer

It is important for clinician/nurse to have

knowledge of the use and address appropriately.

- American Cancer Society. Nutrition and Physical Activity During and After Cancer Treatment
- > American Cancer Society. The Link Between Drinking and Cancer

CSOC Patient Handout can be accessed at: http://cancer-help.me/alcohol and http://cancer-help.me/drugs

References:

- > NIH. NIDAMED: Clinical Resources
- > NIH. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

See Reference links below for

additional information

- > CAGE-AID Substance Abuse Screening Tool
- > Fast Fact #127. Substance Use Disorders In The Palliative Care **Patient**
- ► Fast Fact #244. Screening For Opioid Misuse And Abuse
- > SAMHSA Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator

