ASCO AND HEALTH VOLUNTEERS OVERSEAS: DELIVERING ONCOLOGY NURSING EDUCATION IN HONDURAS

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Cancer Care in Honduras

Developing countries, such as Honduras, face a heavy cancer burden. Oncology nurses are challenged by lack of resources and training.

- **Visit**
  - American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
  - Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO)

- **Assess**
  - Sites and resources
  - Goals of healthcare providers and institutions agencies.
  - Access to information and technology

- **Survey**
  - Demographic characteristics, education, employment
  - Educational needs

- **Educate**
  - Onsite education
  - Regional and national conferences

- **Follow-up**
  - Share information with local and international partners for sustainable programs.
Results and Future Initiatives

- Two visits from ASCO/HVO oncology teams in 2011 and 2012
- Two 2-day national conferences for oncology nurses with over 160 nurses attended the conferences
- < 4% had formal training in oncology care
- > 60% had internet access
- Survey results - educational needs:
  - Chemotherapy administration
  - Pain and symptom management
  - Palliative and end-of-life care
- Future plans:
  - Collaborations between professional organizations to expand cancer training initiatives in developing countries.
  - Utilization of web-based resources for professional development and training.

Contact Information:
Health Volunteers Overseas  http://www.hvousa.org/
American Society of Clinical Oncology - International Cancer Corps
http://www.asco.org/ascov2/Education+Training/Career+Resources/Opportunities+to+Volunteer+Abroad/ASCO+International+Cancer+Corps
University of Massachusetts Boston College of Nursing and Health Services - Global Health
http://www.umb.edu/academics/cnhs/global_health/