



IGHG Cancer-related fatigue surveillance recommendations

Who needs surveillance?

Healthcare providers and survivors of childhood, adolescent and young adult (CAYA) cancers <u>should be aware</u> that CAYA cancer survivors are risk for cancer-related fatigue^a (CRF; Level A evidence).

Main risk factors for CRF in CAYA cancer survivors are:

- Psychological distress (Level A evidence),
- Late effects or health problems, pain, relapse, older age at follow-up (Level B evidence),
- Radiotherapy (Level C evidence).

What surveillance modality should be used and how often should surveillance be performed?

For all CAYA cancer survivors:

A medical history/anamnesis focused on survivors' feelings of tiredness and exhaustion <u>is</u> <u>recommended</u> to be performed regularly (at every long-term follow-up visit, or at general medical checkups) (expert opinion).

• Questions to ask: "Do you get tired easily?", or "Are you too tired or exhausted to enjoy the things you like to do?"

For CAYA cancer survivors with an indication for CRF from medical history/anamnesis:

- Further testing with a validated fatigue measure bis recommended (Level B evidence, expert opinion).
- Screening for underlying medical conditions^c that may cause fatigue <u>is recommended</u> (expert opinion, existing guidelines)

What should be done if abnormalities are identified?

If CRF is diagnosed with a validated fatigue measure and if no underlying medical condition is identified:

- Referral to a specialist in fatigue (or more generic specialist such as psychologist, physiotherapist, or other relevant specialist) <u>is recommended</u> for CAYA cancer survivors (expert opinion).
- Interventions that <u>are useful</u>:
 - Physical activity (Level B evidence);
 - Education about CRF (Level B evidence);
 - o Relaxation and mindfulness (Level C evidence, existing guidelines);
 - Cognitive behavioral therapy (Level C evidence, existing guidelines);
 - Adventure-based training (Level C evidence).

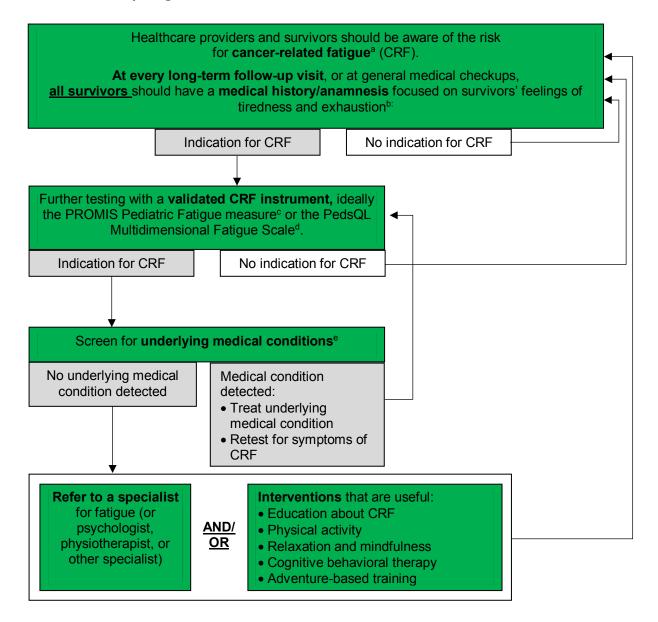
(http://www.healthmeasures.net/index.php?ltemid=992 [accessed August 29th 2019]) or the PedsQL Multidimensional Fatigue Scale (https://eprovide.mapi-trust.org/instruments/pediatric-quality-of-life-inventory-multidimensional-fatigue-scale [accessed August 29th 2019]); see Table S13 for list of all measures validated in CAYA cancer patients and survivors.

^c e.g. other late effects like cardiac dysfunction, endocrine dysfunction, pulmonary dysfunction, and renal dysfunction (IGHG guidelines under development); and/or other general causes like anemia, arthritis, neuromuscular complications, pain, fever and/or infection, and nutritional deficiencies (list not conclusive).

^a CRF is defined as "a distressing, persistent, subjective sense of physical, emotional and/or cognitive tiredness or exhaustion related to cancer or cancer treatment that is not proportional to recent activity and interferes with usual functioning".

^b Ideally the PROMIS Pediatric Fatigue measure

Process of screening and interventions for cancer-related fatigue in survivors of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancers



Publication

Christen S, Roser K, Mulder RL, Ilic A, Lie HC, Loonen JJ, Mellblom AV, Kremer LCM, Hudson MM, Constine LS, Skinner R, Scheinemann K, Gilleland Marchak J, Michel G; IGHG psychological late effects group. Recommendations for the surveillance of cancer-related fatigue in childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer survivors: a report from the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group. Journal of Cancer Survivorship 2020;14:923–938.