The University of Michigan Department of Urology

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Today we hear from the entire team comprising the Michigan Urologic Surgery Improvement Collaborative, otherwise known as MUSIC. Below, the team provides a nice overview of their recent efforts before delving into introductions of each team member (with some great photos!). So without further ado, please enjoy this week's edition of What's New!

-Eric Anderson

The MUSIC Team

Many of you should be familiar with the Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative (MUSIC), and the quality improvement (QI) initiatives urologists statewide have implemented to improve urological care in the state of Michigan. MUSIC is a Collaborative Quality Initiative (CQI) funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, and there are currently 20 CQIs in a range of surgical and medical specialties, most of them with coordinating centers housed at the University of Michigan.

This month celebrates 5 years since the first statewide MUSIC meeting, when Dr. David Miller and Dr. James Montie met with urologists from community and academic practices, and coalesced around a shared vision to make Michigan the best place in the world for prostate cancer care. Over the years, ably supported by Susan Linsell, Senior Project Manager, MUSIC physician leadership at the coordinating center (housed within the Department of Urology at the North Campus Research Complex) has grown to include Dr. Khurshid Ghani, Dr. Jim Dupree, Dr. Hugh Solomon, Dr. Greg Auffenberg, and Dr. John Hollingsworth. We have now expanded beyond prostate cancer and have started a pilot initiative on kidney stones (MUSIC ROCKS) and a soon to be launched initiative on small renal masses (MUSIC KIDNEY). For those interested to know more about how MUSIC started, and the lessons learned please see the two articles attached: 1) Urology Times interview featuring MUSIC, 2) AUA News update on MUSIC.

The success of MUSIC is not just the result of staff affiliated with the University of Michigan, but countless urologists and their team-members throughout the state. At this year's upcoming AUA meeting in Boston, 20 out of 24 MUSIC abstracts were selected for presentation, and 2 of these were awarded Best Abstracts to be presented in the plenary session. This is a team effort: 26 MUSIC urologists served as authors and co-authors. The purpose of this What's New is to provide an introduction to the staff who make up the heartbeat of the MUSIC operation - the coordinating center team - without whose hard work none of the gains in improving patient care would be possible. This update also covers a short feature on some good news regarding payments related to MUSIC QI efforts. Since money talks, let's get that out of the way, before we learn more about the MUSIC coordinating center team.

Value Based Reimbursements:

BCBSM supports a provider payment "uplift" program to incentivize quality improvement (QI) efforts through the Physician Group Incentive Program. Historically, the incentives were largely focused on primary care but BCBSM included surgeons beginning in 2015. However, the metrics for success were based on cost metrics for an entire provider organization and on global quality measures of little relevance to surgical activity, and particularly of little relevance to the QI work done in the surgical collaboratives supported by BCBSM. MUSIC initiated discussions with BCBSM leadership in 2015 to: 1) Better align the QI work of the collaborative through the use of more relevant metrics of improvement in population health in Michigan, and 2) Base a portion of the "uplift" incentive (now termed Value Based Reimbursement, VBR) on these metrics.

Utilizing population level BCBSM claims data between 2012 and 2016, MUSIC QI interventions yielded substantially improved rates of appropriate imaging for newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients and decreased infectious complications after prostate biopsy. Because of this improved population health, BCBSM agreed in January 2017 to pay an additional 3% VBR on procedure claims to all MUSIC practices. This means that for the next year our department will be paid 3% more on all BCBSM Commercial PPO procedure claims. The VBR paid to MUSIC practices represents the first step to coordinate QI efforts of surgical collaboratives with payment reform methods.

Meet the Team:

<u>Susan Linsell</u>

My name is Susan Linsell and I am the Senior Project Manager for MUSIC. I have been with the program since its inception in 2011. I thoroughly enjoy working alongside a great

team as we aim to make Michigan the best place in the world for prostate cancer and urologic care. My background is in Industrial Engineering and Health Services Administration, and in accordance with my passion for quality assurance, I am Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certified. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family. My husband, Dan, and I have a 3-year-old son named Ryan and twin girls, Grace and Olivia, who are nearly one-year-old. Three young children sure do keep us on our toes, and there is never a dull moment in our house, but we wouldn't want it any other way.



<u>Tae Kim</u>

Associate Project Manager and Official Baker of MUSIC. University of Michigan graduate who bleeds maize and blue. Avid reader of books—mostly paper format.



<u>Anna Johnson</u>

I'm Anna Johnson. As the MUSIC Database Manager I serve as the point of contact for MUSIC practices for all registry-related inquiries. I am also a project manager for some MUSIC initiatives including the Genomics in Michigan Impacting Observation or Radiation (G-MINOR), MUSIC's first clinical trial. Before joining the MUSIC team, I worked in a prostate cancer genetics laboratory at UM for over 10 years. I'm an Indiana native and an IU alumna, so, as is legally required, I'm a big Hoosier basketball fan. When I'm not thinking about prostate cancer or hoops, I'm usually spending time with my husband CJ, a UM biostatistician/informaticist and our 2.5-year-old son Connor, a freeloading Mickey Mouse enthusiast. I also enjoy baking, and eating baked goods, and knitting but not wearing hand-knitted goods (only Connor gets subjected to that).



<u>Stephanie Ferrante</u>

Hi, my name is Stephanie. I am the newest member of the MUSIC team, as the Outreach Manager/Project Coordinator. In my position I will be branding the MUSIC name, spear heading some of the QI initiatives, and serving as a contact for all the sites and personnel. As a Michigan State University graduate, I will always bleed green and white but that doesn't mean I don't have room for some maize and blue. I recently moved to Ann Arbor and look forward to exploring all the wonderful things this city has to offer. When I am not working or exploring the city I enjoy running outside or reading a good novel.



<u>Ji Qi</u>

Hi! My name is Ji Qi and I am a data analyst in the MUSIC group. I contribute to the analysis of MUSIC data for quality improvement meetings, conference abstract, peerreviewed manuscript and other operational/research projects. Prior to joining MUSIC, I had my master's degree in Statistics from U of M and I worked as a statistician at Plastic Surgery department for about a year. I am originally from Beijing, China, and I spent my first 23 years there with my family. The fact that I never lived in another city (other than short-term travelling) made me wonder how that feels. And that is why I decided to come to the U.S. for my graduate school and to start my career here. Now I have been in Ann Arbor for more than three years, and I very much enjoy living in this small yet vibrant town. When I am not working, I like to go swimming, jogging, and try different restaurants with friends.



<u>Rabia Siddiqui</u>

My name is Rabia Siddiqui, soon to be Rabia Martin. I have been with the Urology Department for the past 8 years and for the past several years have been a part of the MUSIC team. My major role with MUSIC focuses on data abstraction for the University of Michigan, as well as assisting other abstractors with any questions they may have. Personally, I recently got married in July 2016 and we are in pursuit of our first house. In our spare time, my husband and I like to spoil our boxer, Frazier and attend sporting events and concerts.



<u>Dania Berjaoui</u>

As a part of MUSIC, I work to support the staff of the coordinating center on project support. In addition to my role with MUSIC, I support Dr. David Miller who also serves as the Medical Director for Strategic Planning and Business Development (SPBD). My work with SPBD focuses on helping to support the strategic priorities for the Health System. In my free time I focus on my schoolwork, as the end of my Master's degree is in near! I also try to find time to shoot portraits of friends and family. A random fact about me is that I have a cat and two turtles! I am also a huge Red Wings fan, the picture below is my boyfriend and I at the Joe for one of the last times!



Nikola Rakic

I am a recent graduate from the University of Michigan. I am currently working as a research assistant for MUSIC and aspire to go to medical school. Outside of MUSIC, my passions are coaching tennis, music, and playing various sports such as tennis, basketball, and skiing.



<u>Jaya Telang</u>

I recently graduated from the University of Michigan and am working for MUSIC and traveling while I apply to medical school. I am an avid runner and typically run with my husky, Zuni. I also enjoy snowboarding (and skiing) and will be going out to Park City in late February.



<u>Chris Maurino</u>

It is incredible how quickly time has gone by. I have worked for MUSIC for the last 9 months as a temporary employee doing tasks such as creating reports, data entry into the prostate cancer registry, and data abstraction. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to work in such an amazing collaborative. During my time at MUSIC, my personal life has been very busy. I have graduated from the University of Southern California, obtaining my Masters of Public Health, and became the head coach of the Allen Park Boys' Varsity Swimming and Diving Team. The most important thing that happened during the last year was my marriage to my wonderful wife, McKenna, and our amazing adventures in Australia for our honeymoon. It has been an outstanding 9 months and I look forward to a great 2017!

