A changing paradigm in oncology nursing practice emphasizes the importance of advancing current science with evolving practice (Edwards et al., 2012; Hewitt, Greenfield, & Stovall, 2005). Despite the increasing number of survivors, several unanswered questions remain related to evidence-based care of survivors; in particular, empirical evidence defining best clinical practice is limited. The Institute of Medicine (Hewitt et al., 2005) acknowledged that evidence-based practice is necessary to inform clinicians and patients on best care of long-term survivors.

To provide coordinated and quality care to long-term survivors, oncology nurses and other providers need appropriate education and training resources for this emerging subspecialty. Clinical decision tools (CDTs) are examples of educational resources that can be used to increase relevant knowledge and skills (Eichner & Das, 2010). CDTs are any tool or technique that enhances decision-making by clinicians, patients, or their surrogates in the delivery or management of health care (Campbell et al., 2011).

Cancer Survivorship Practice Algorithms

Clinical practice algorithms, hereafter referred to as algorithms, are decision tools used in clinical practice, quality improvement, and coordination of care, and often are intended to serve as evidence-based CDTs (Campbell et al., 2011; Eichner & Das, 2010; Margolis, 1983). In this article, algorithm is used in a global sense to describe tools offered to facilitate delivery of multidisciplinary, site-specific cancer survivorship care. Published evidence is lacking concerning providers’ preferences, adoption, implementation, and satisfaction with survivorship algorithms, and such research remains limited in scope (Campbell et al., 2011; Stricker et al., 2011).

In this article, the authors will present the conceptual framework of survivorship algorithms, describe the application of algorithms in multidisciplinary disease-specific survivorship clinics, and assess the adoption and implementation of the algorithms.

Framework of Survivorship Algorithms

The authors’ institution identified algorithms as an appropriate means to disseminate and implement evidence-based practice across the institution. The conceptual structure of the algorithms established a broad perspective for managing long-term survivorship care and...