

Management of constipation in the oncology setting – Constipation Risk Assessment Tool (CRAT)

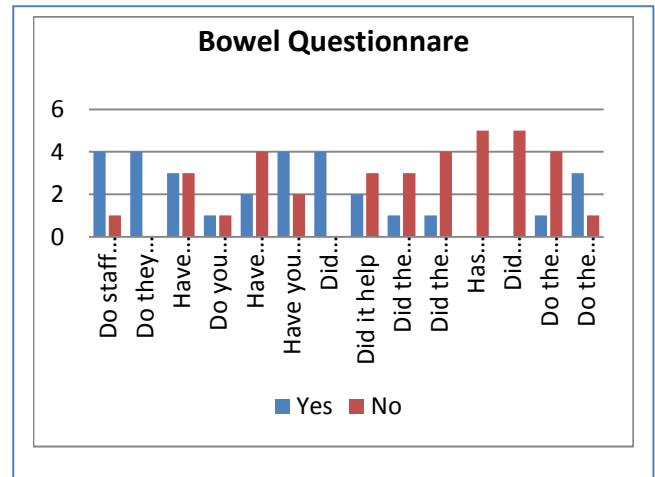
Leeanne Graham CNS Oncology & Megan Kepreotis CNS Oncology Calvary Mater Newcastle

The constipation risk assessment tool (CRAT) was developed after identifying a gap in nursing knowledge and care in relation to treating constipation in the oncology setting

Key Areas

- **Education** – Staff education on bowel management, assessment, medications, interventions & documentation
- **Assessment** -Assess diet & water intake, mobility, mental state & any co morbidities, usual habits
- **Action** -Total the score follow the step approach to implement appropriate treatment / interventions
- **Documentation** -Clearly document in the patients notes and keep a daily record of their bowel motions

Pre-implementation



Tool

CRAT- risk assessment + pathway = standardised treatment

Using a step approach to bowel management and care

Audits

