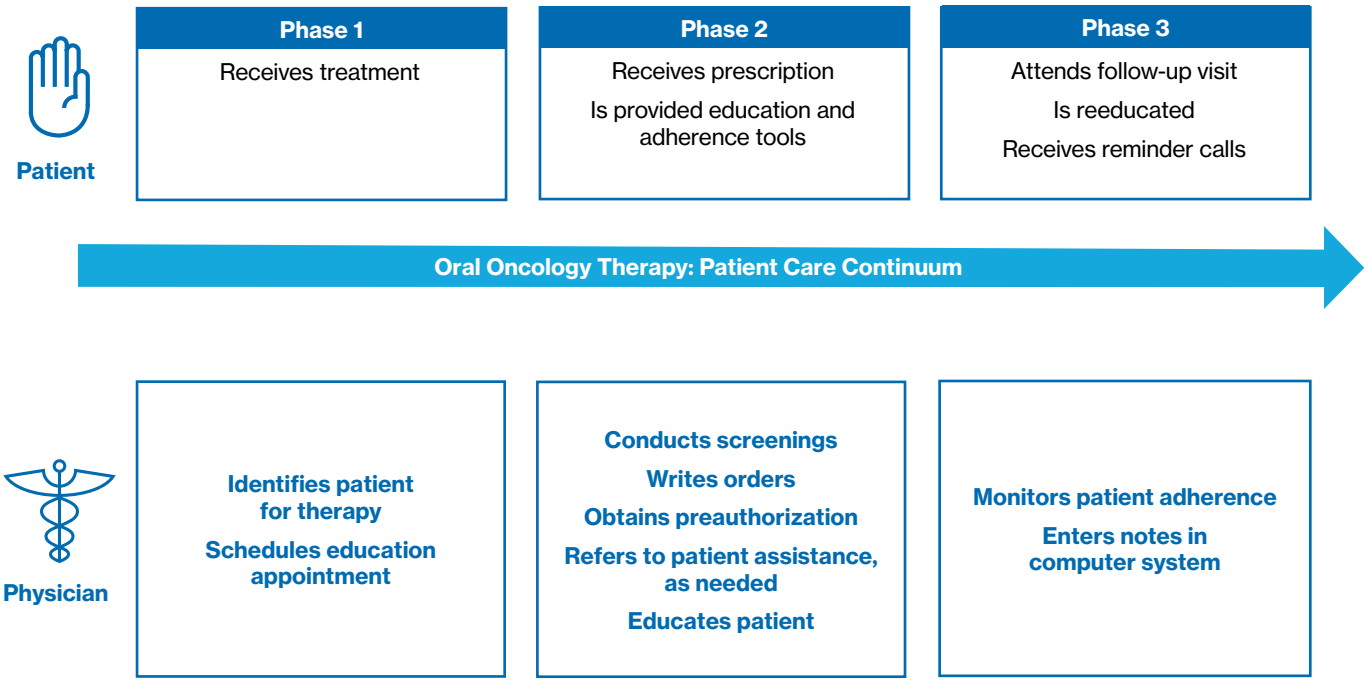
Technology's Role in Coordinating Oral Oncology Care

There has been a marked increase in the use of telemedicine to coordinate oncology care.[1,2] Example applications include:

- Patients accessing health care providers (HCPs) in real time remotely
- HCPs conducting follow-up appointments via phone/video
- Pharmacies calling patients to remind them about refills and monitor adherence
- Pathologists remotely viewing microscopic images of tissue samples[3]
- Patients entering their symptoms in a web portal, which then sends an alert to their care team and leads to a phone call[4]

Coordinating Oral Oncology Care[5,6]



Electronic health record tools can be used to support a whole-team approach to implementing an oral oncology program

EHRs can help providers identify adverse reactions and manage patient adherence.[7] For example:

- When a physician sends prescriptions to the pharmacy, the pharmacist can access the patient's history in the electronic health record (EHR) to check for any potential and prior adverse drug reactions

EHRs centralize a patient's records for access and monitoring by multiple team members. For example:

- The pharmacy can make follow-up calls at regular intervals to check on the patient and make sure they are taking their medication
- The physician can access the patient's record to see notes about previous office visits, including those from the patient's other providers (eg, primary care doctor)

EHRs allow for patient and caregiver education documentation and medication therapy management.[8]

Key Takeaways

- The oral oncolytics landscape is trending toward more personalized medicine and technology-driven care coordination
- To support the flow of patient care within an oral oncology program, staff roles are key—especially roles involving patient education and adherence initiatives
- Utilizing technologies such as telemedicine and EHR systems can support oral oncology programs and may help improve adherence and outcomes

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