

## Peer Review File

Article Information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/apm-24-64>

### Review Comments

#### Reviewer A

The article clearly states its objectives of discussing the challenges faced by young patients with breast cancer and describing the PYNK program. I found the program description well detailed, and the results of the patient survey reported in line 437 helps to support advocating for programs like this.

I suggest clarifying the Date of Search in Methods (line 79) as it states March 2024 but Table 1 mentions January 2024. -

*Thank you, we have clarified that the articles were retrieved between 2000-2024. Date of search was between Jan -Jun 2024. I have updated the methods section and table 1 to reflect that.*

I'd also substitute the reference #8 (Lambertini et al) regarding the POSITIVE study (line 142) for the most recent publication (Partridge AH et al, N Engl J Med. 2023 May 4;388(18):1645-1656).

- *Thank you, citation updated.*

Additionally, I suggest expanding on the plan to decrease racial and language disparities in order to be more inclusive (line 456).

*.We have suggested that our social worker contribute to this effort. In addition we have added the following sentence: "Written materials, seminars and videos addressing these special populations should be added to the PYNK virtual library."*

#### Reviewer B

Lines 58-59 Introduction: Please provide citations: "Addressing these challenges has been shown..."

- *Thank you, citation added as reference 4.*

Lines 89-90. Since facts about this demographic are available, why not provide them? i.e. "While breast cancer incidence in younger women is still low—about 49 per 100,000 in 2019, the most recent data available—it's a deeply concerning trend, especially since women under 40 are nearly 40 percent more likely to die from their breast cancer than women over 40."

Source: <https://www.bcrf.org/blog/breast-cancer-young-women/#:~:text=While%20breast%20cancer%20incidence%20in,cancer%20than%20>

women%20over%2040.

***We have now mentioned the rising incidence and added the actual incidence in 2019 with a reference as suggested.***

Lines 102-107 require one or more citations.

***Reference 7 added***

Lines 112-113 require a citation.

***References 8 and 9 added***

Lines 155-16- require one or more citations.

***References 14 and 15 added***

Lines 174-178 require one or more citations as well as proper punctuation (e.g.,...and a missing period at the end of the sentence.)

***References 17 and 18 added and corrections made to text***

Lines 225-227 require one or more citations.

***Reference 33 added***

Lines 227-229 require one or more citations.

***Reference 34 added***

Line 246:i.e.,

- ***We have corrected the punctuation.***

Line 249. Perhaps “ obviously” is too strong—“may lead to” might be considered?

- ***We have incorporated the suggestion***

Line 273-274: PYNK in Canada may well be the first program of its type. However, Dr. Harold Freeman began his patient navigation programs in 1989 which produced many clinic-based programs including those for Adolescents and Young Adults (including breast cancer survivors) Also, the Young Survival Coalition (YSC) designed to strengthen the community, address the unique needs, amplify the voice and improve the quality of life of young adults affected by breast cancer, locally, nationally and internationally was founded in 1998.

- ***Thank you for your feedback. As you mentioned, PYNK was the first program of its kind in our country. It is different from YSC in that the program is integrated into the clinical care of patients receiving breast cancer treatment at our facility (Sunnybrook). PYNK also has a strong research component and a major emphasis on training health care professionals to best manage this unique population***

Lines 321-323 need a citation to the NAMS guidelines.

- ***Reference 31 on line 325, but it has now been moved up to line 323.***

Line 326 “Physical activity has been shown...” In general, when a writer introduces a topic with this phrase, a reference is needed so the reader knows “by whom, when, and what is the evidence.”

***Reference 46 added***

Line 344 “A study looked at” This would be better written as an in-text citation with the format determined by the paper style. APA in-text citation style uses the author's last name and the year of publication, for example: (Field, 2005). For direct quotations, include the page number as well, for example: (Field, 2005, p. 14).

- ***Thank you. We have incorporated your suggestion***

Line 390: This section could be more informative if the authors had included factual information about PYNK’s longitudinal assessment.

- ***We thank the reviewer for this feedback. We have added the following elaboration to the previous section “Tailored survivorship and education”. : . “ While patients may request an in-person or virtual visit from the navigator at any time, the navigator will proactively contact patients at specific points in time including: time of initiation and 2 to 3 months after initiation of a new adjuvant therapy, a few months after return to work, and at the time of diagnosis of disease recurrence, . Outside these specific points in time patients are periodically assessed for: adherence to medication and lifestyle recommendations; common treatment symptoms; psychological well-being; and extent to which physical function, work and relationships have returned to their pre-diagnosis state***

Line 447: This section could have been much more valuable by providing factual information about other young adult cancer programs in Canada. Exactly how many are there and for what disease types in which cancer clinics?

- ***I have revised the wording to be more specific. “Three other disease sites within Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre have started their own young adult cancer programs (specifically, colorectal cancer, gynecologic oncology and complex malignant hematology). Also Princess Margaret Cancer Centre has developed a non-site specific program for Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer.***