

Patient Shared Decision Making: Physicians' and Patients' Perspective

PROBLEM: Sharing decision making (SDM) identified as collaborative process that allows patients and their providers to make healthcare decision together. Taking into account the best scientific evidence about treatment, screening, illness management options, potential benefits, harms and that consider patients preference.

Patients have a right to be involved in decisions concerning their health and well-being and their involvement can lead to improved adherence to management plans and improved health outcomes, this right is universal value that has to be adopted.

AIM: To assess the perspective of patients and physicians toward patient shared decision making and to compare between the preference of patients and physicians in sharing decision making process.

METHODS: This is a cross sectional analytic study was under taken in Hera General Hospital, Mecca, KSA. Self-administered questionnaires were used to collect data from 68 physicians and structured interview of 406 patients.

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Project sponsor:

None

RESULTS:

Table 1: Distribution of Physicians about their Current practice on Decision Making process and patients according to their attitude towards Shared Decision Making

	Statement	Always		Some times		Never	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Physicians	Giving Information about medical condition	66	97.1	2	2.9	0	0
	Discussing together about pros & cons	76	82.4	12	17.6	0	0
	Encourage the patient to look for the information	48	70.8	19	27.9	1	1.5
	Involving patient in Decision making	51	75.8	15	22.1	2	2.9
Patients	Prefer to be fully informed about benefit & harms	348	85.7	48	11.8	10	2.5
	They get enough information	231	56.9	99	24.4	76	18.7
	Prefer to participate in decision making	287	60.3	55	18.5	64	20.2
	Like to gather information and discuss it with physician	159	38.4	151	37.2	99	24.4

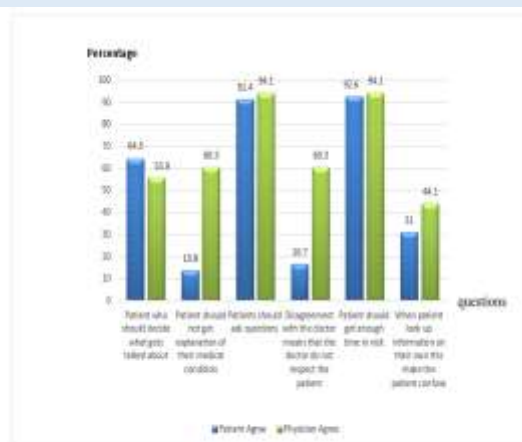


Figure 1: comparison of Physicians and Patients about their preference in Decision Making process

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1- Most of physicians appear respective to patients' involvement.
- 2- Most of physicians agree time and patients' level of education are problematic.
- 3- Most of patients have positive attitudes towards participating in decision making process.

NEXT STEP:

- 1- Hospital's policy and practice should address the right of patients in participating in decision making.
- 2- Practical barriers such as time constraints should probably be addressed with greater priority by hospital management.
- 3- Hospital should provide regular training to physicians on subjects of patients shared decision making and communication skills.