

November 28, 2024

NSGO Annual Meeting

Shared Decision Making How to explain molecular findings to patients

Karina Dahl Steffensen

Professor, M.D., PhD.
Director, Center for Shared Decision Making
Lillebaelt University Hospital









Imagine Being the Patient...



How Would You Feel If...

You were presented with complex molecular findings you didn't fully understand?



You faced **life-changing decisions** without knowing all the implications?

If I were the patient, how would I want this explained to me?











What is Shared Decision Making?

No decision about me - without me

Shared Decision Making (SDM) is a collaborative healthcare approach where healthcare professionals and patients work together to make informed decisions.

It involves sharing medical information, discussing treatment options, and considering patients' preferences and values. SDM aims to empower patients, enhancing their active participation in their healthcare choices and ultimately improving the overall quality of care.



















What do the patients say?



- "Health Services" according to the Danes Mandag Morgen and TrygFonden 2016.
- More than 6.000 Danes have been asked about their overall expectations to the health services, their specific experiences and opinions to a number of change management initiatives.

Material

Ref.: Report Mandag Morgen and TrygFonden: The health Services according to the Danes, 2016











What do the patients say?



A majority wants to make shared decisions

"Who would you want to make decisions about treatment if you were in each of the following situations?"

In an acute situation, i.e. heart blood clot

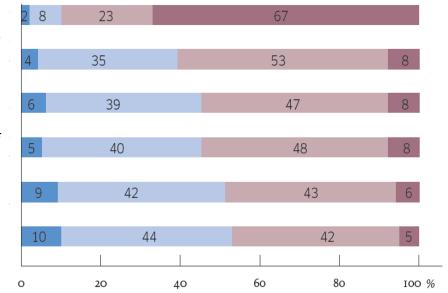
In a complicated course, i.e. where you will need treatment for multiple diseases at the same time

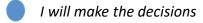
In treatment of chronic diseases, i.e diabetes or arthritis

In a course of rehabilitation, i.e after a longer period of hospitalisation

In a less complicated, planned treatment course, i.e. knee surgery or hip replacement

In a life-threatening disease course, i.e. cancer treatment





- My opinion is of higher value, but the decisions should be made together with the doctor
- The doctor's opinion is of higher value, but the decisions must be made in collaboration with me
- The doctor should make the decisions

Ref.: Report Mandag Morgen and TrygFonden: The health Services according to the Danes, 2016











Definition

A patient decision aid is a tool that provides evidence-based information about healthcare options, benefits, and risks.

It helps patients clarify values and preferences, enabling them to make informed, personalized decisions in collaboration with healthcare providers.







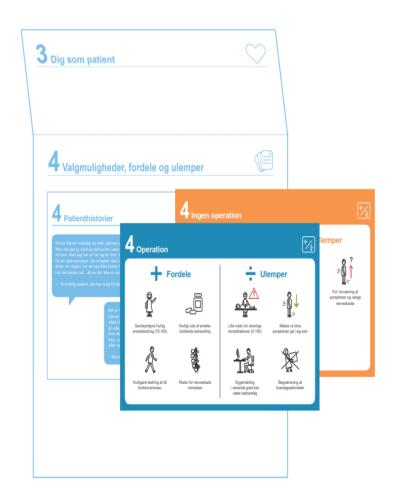


Patient decision aid

What is it?



- Clinicians and patients can use patient decision aids to support Shared Decision Making
- Can be used in the dialogue between patient and clinician when a decision is to be made
- Must provide the patients with clear, understandable information about their condition and treatment possibilities
- The tool outline results, risks and uncertainties in a clear and unbiased way
- Helps the patient to consider what is important to him/her and what solution is the best in his/her situation: "patient preferences"
- A patient decision aid cannot stand alone and cannot replace the dialogue between patient and clincian











DECISION HELPERTM

A Danish model for patient decision aids





- We have developed a template (a DECISION HELPERTM) to use when working with shared decision making
- The DECISION HELPER[™] has been developed in cooperation with Design School Kolding, patients and clinicians
- The DECISION HELPERTM has been tested in multiple research projects. The results show that, when the consultation is supported by when a DECISION HELPERTM, the degree of shared decision making increases significantly, the patient feels more involved, is less in doubt of the decision and regrets less
- The DECISION HELPERTM is an in-consult patient decision aid tool
- The patients requested a tangible patient decision aid and not a digital solution.
 (However, we do now also have an app based DECISION HELPERTM)









DECISION HELPERTM

A Danish model for patient decision aids









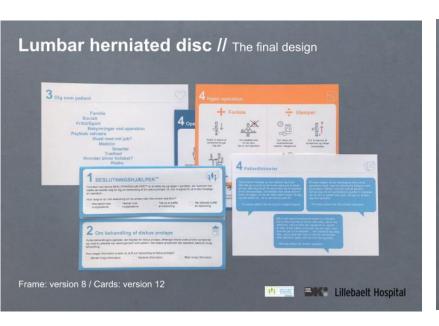


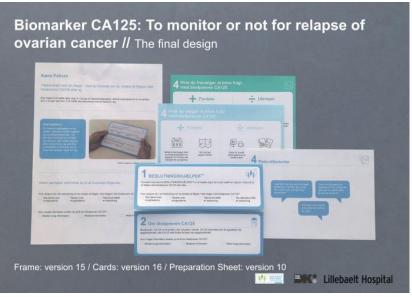


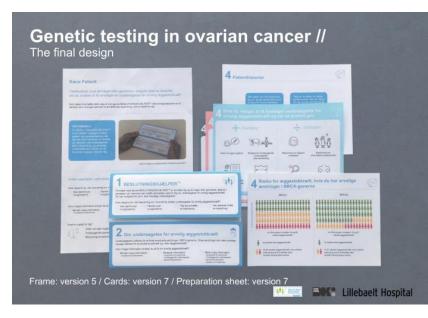
DECISION HELPERTM

A generic patient decision aid model











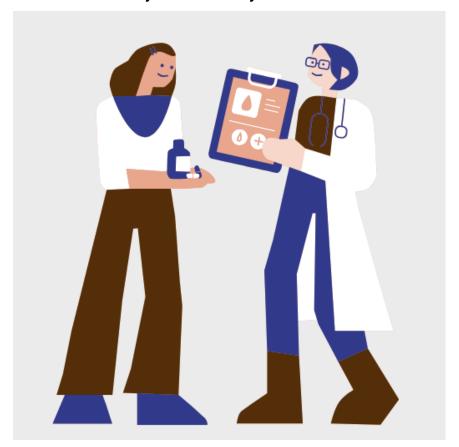








How can I explain molecular testing (and treatment) in a way that helps the patient feel informed, valued, and involved?





Step 1

Choice talk

- Explain that a decision needs to be made, and the patient has a role in it.
- Invite the patient: Explain that decision-making is a shared process and that the patients inputs are valued and important to consider.











How can I explain molecular testing (and treatment) in a way that helps the patient feel informed, valued, and involved?





Step 2

Option talk (Medical Options)

- Present options neutrally, including "wait and see" use a patient decision aid if available
- Discuss the pros and cons of all treatment options.
- Use absolute numbers and explain side effects in terms of daily life.
- Check understanding with the "teach-back" method.



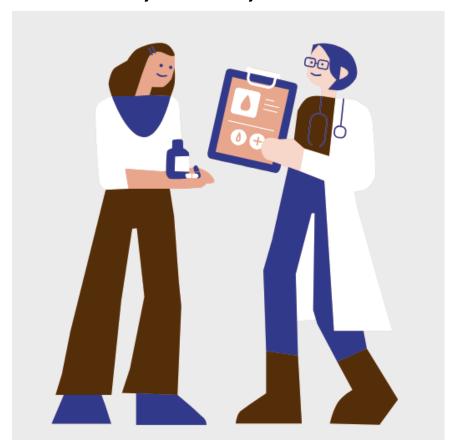








How can I explain molecular testing (and treatment) in a way that helps the patient feel informed, valued, and involved?





Step 3

Patient Preferences

- Ask about what is important to the patient now and in the future.
- Assist the patient in linking her preferences/values to how they align with the medical options outlined before



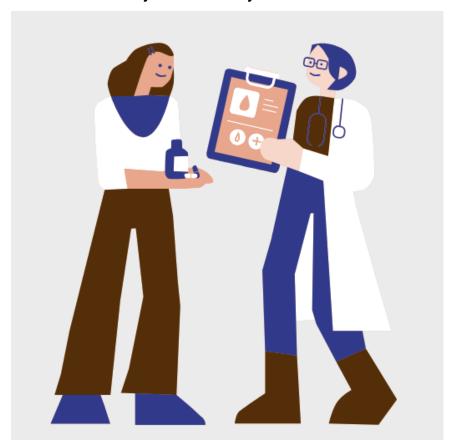








How can I explain molecular testing (and treatment) in a way that helps the patient feel informed, valued, and involved?





Step 4

Decision talk

- Make a shared decision based on the best match between medical options and the patient's preferences.
- Support the patient's choice, even if it is not the best medical option.
- Allow flexibility to revisit the decision later.



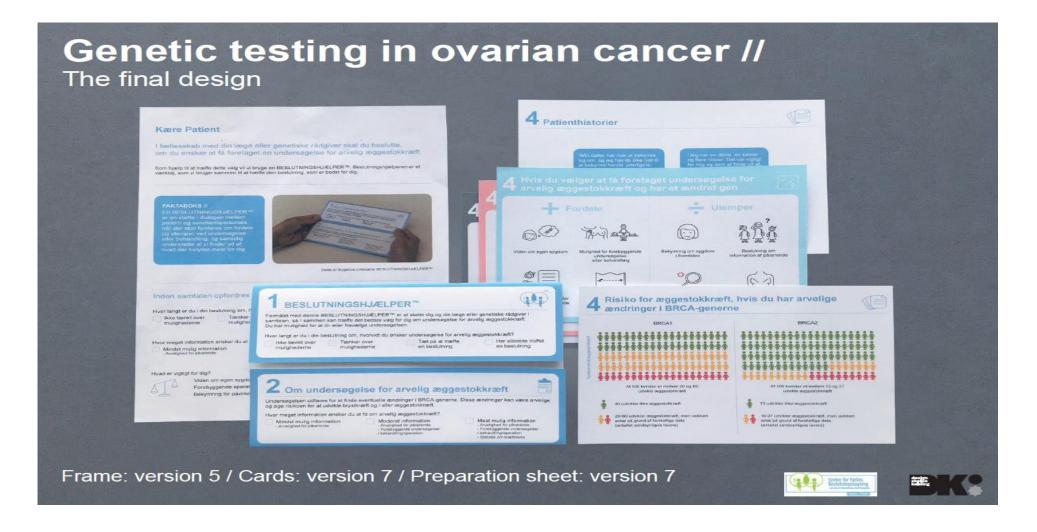






An example of a patient decision aid built from the generic patient decision aid platform











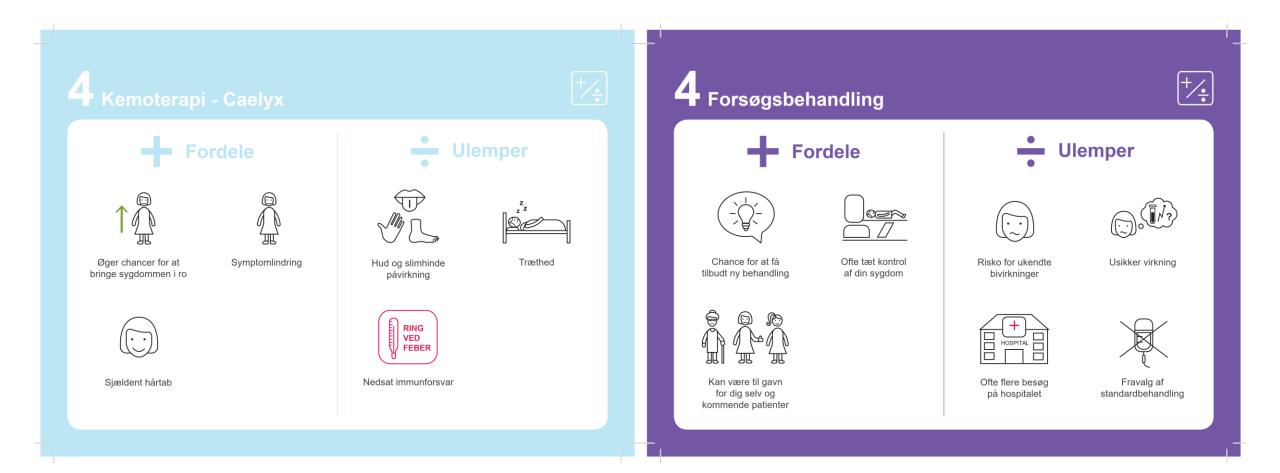






Clinical Trials: Benefits and disadvantages















4 Statistik // Carboplatin vs. Carboplatin/Caelyx

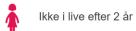








I live efter 2 år



Platin sensitiv recidiv. Carboplatin 45% (33-45%) vs Carboplatin/Caelyx 60%









Bringing Molecular Findings into Shared Decision-Making





Key take aways

- Choice talk

 Present the decision to be made, emphasizing the patient's role in the process.
- Option talk (Medical Options)

 Provide clear and impartial information on the available test/treatment options, including pros and cons.
- Patient preferences

 Explore what is most important to the patient and link their preferences to the treatment options.
- Decision talk
 Support the patient in making a decision that aligns with their preferences









Does it work?



Updated Cochrane review 2024 (N=209 randomiserede studier) has shown the use of patient decision aids in a number of clinical situations have led to:

High quality evidence

Patients gain increased knowledge about their options

Patients gain greater clarity on what is most important to them

Patients feel better informed about the benefits and drawbacks

Patients gain a more accurate perception of risk

Patients are more actively involved in the decision-making process

Moderate quality evidence

Greater alignment between preferences and the choice that was made

Ref: Stacey D et al, Decision aids for people facing health

Low quality evidence

Fewer patients choose i.e. major elective surgery

Negative consequences in regards of health outcomes, satisfaction or other effects was not reported

treatment or screening decisions. Cochrane Database Systematic Reviews. 2024. Issue 1. Art. No.: CD001431.

Vejle Hospital - a part of Lillebaelt Hospital



Receive news about shared decision making

follow Center for Shared Decision Making on LinkedIn:





Karina Dahl Steffensen

Professor, MD, PhD

Vejle-Lillebaelt University Hospital of Southern Denmark Director, Center for Shared Decision Making

www.cffb.dk // www.linkedin.dk/company/c-f-f-b