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Value of Shared Decision Making from Patients' Perspective

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Abstract

Shared decision making (SDM) has been advocated in Taiwan since 2016, and medical institutions have begun to engage in SDM promotion and patient decision aid (PDA) implementation. However, the effectiveness of SDM implementation has not yet to be systematically assessed. We conducted a focus group interview with patients with chronic kidney disease and their families in an academic medical center, and the oral content obtained was transcribed into a verbatim draft for further analysis. We determined five main suggestions as follows: (1) everything should be based on the core value of SDM; (2) the health literacy of the general public should be elevated; (3) SDM processes should be designed in accordance with the disease characteristics; (4) PDAs' options should meet patients' demands; and (5) the involvement of patient organizations should be encouraged. Based on the aforementioned suggestions, better designed SDM systems and PDAs meeting the patients needs can be developed.

Keywords: shared decision making, patient decision aids, chronic kidney disease, focus group, health literacy, patients' perspective.