



QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

## SHARED DECISION MAKING FOR PSORIASIS TREATMENT WITH A PATIENT DECISION AID: A SURVEY OF PATIENTS' AND PHYSICIANS' FEEDBACK

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**Background:** Shared-decision making has been considered of increasing importance in many medical specialties. The treatment options for psoriasis vary and have different benefits and risks for which shared-decision making is theoretically applicable.

**Objective:** We developed a patient decision aid for psoriasis treatment and analyzed patients' and physicians' feedback using a questionnaire.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients' and physicians' feedback for the shared-decision making process with a patient decision aid was obtained by survey from 15 consecutive psoriasis patients and their treating physicians at dermatology OPD of a tertiary referral medical center in Taiwan. The questionnaire included 15 items describing the potential advantages of the shared-decision making process and requested the respondent to score 1-5 points for low to high agreement to each item.

**Results:** Both the patients and the physicians reported a positive feedback with an average of 4.0 ( $\pm 0.2$ ) and 4.5 ( $\pm 0.2$ ) points for all 15 items, respectively. The top 3 advantages of the shared-decision making process reported by the patients were: 1) It helps me establish trust to the healthcare professionals; 2) It enhances my participation in the medical decision; 3) It enhances the communication between the healthcare professionals and myself; and it provides me the opportunity to ask questions to the healthcare professionals. The top 3 advantages reported by the physicians were: 1) It delivers medical knowledge to patients; and it benefits the improvement of patient welfare; 2) It enhances the patient-physician communication; it helps my patient to understand his/her concerns of most importance; it helps my patient to think about the pros and cons of each treatment options.

**Conclusions:** The present study demonstrated potential benefits of shared-decision making process using a patient decision aid. The patients and physicians both agreed that the shared-decision making process enhances their communication but expressed discrepancy of agreement on other items.

