

SHARED DECISION MAKING:

Discussion tool for healthcare providers

Your patient has been diagnosed with a type of blood cancer. You will be supporting them and their family in making important decisions.

This fact sheet will help you:

- Understand why shared decision making is important
- Learn tips to help you communicate well with your patient
- Understand their concerns
- Be prepared for questions from your patient and their family

SHARED DECISION MAKING

Why shared decision making is important

Making decisions with your patient helps to make their preferences and values a priority. This ensures that you support them to:

- Get informed about their cancer diagnosis
- Consider and learn about all treatment options
- Understand the testing that will be done
- Develop the best care plan



Working with your patient and making decisions together is an important part of their cancer journey.

About shared decision making

- It's a process where the patient and healthcare team make decisions together
- It involves sharing information back and forth
- It helps the patient and family understand the diagnosis and treatment options
- It provides information about financial and support issues

Tips for communicating well

Good communication between the healthcare team and the patient is important. Try these simple tips:

- Get to know your patient and establish a rapport
- Ask open-ended questions to gather more information
- Learn what the patient knows about their diagnosis and treatment and build on their knowledge
- Find out if they want you to explain their medical information to their caregiver and the best way to communicate with that person
- Let them know how they can get in touch with you by phone, email, or in person if they need more time or have other questions

Try the P.A.C.E.S. approach to improve communication:

- P**
Present information
- A**
Ask questions
- C**
Check understanding
- E**
Express concerns
- S**
State preferences

Discussing questions and concerns with your patient

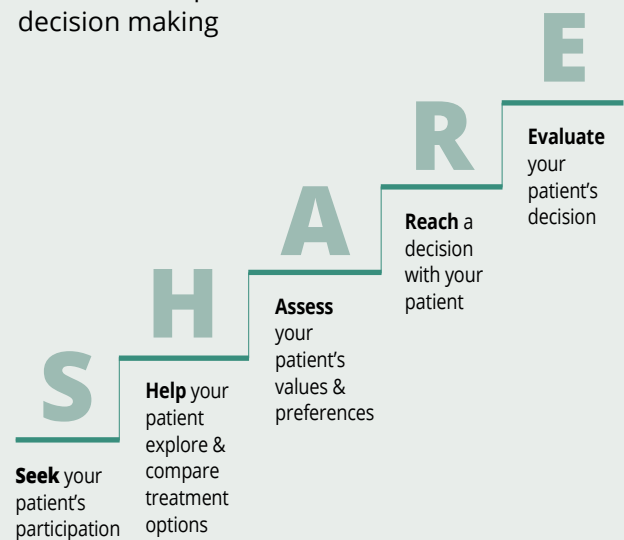
The **Discussion tool for people with a blood cancer** includes a list of concerns to help patients focus their questions for discussion with you at appointments. Their questions and concerns will help you create a treatment plan that considers their preferences and values.

The patient checklist of concerns includes:

- Treatment effectiveness
- Possible side effects
- Travelling to appointments and treatments
- Ability to take part in daily activities
- Finances
- Challenges staying on a medication schedule at home
- Fear of relapse
- Other issues

The **SHARE** approach

5 essential steps of shared decision making



Discussing questions and concerns with your patient

Here are some questions you may want to ask your patient:

- How much information do you want to be given about your diagnosis and treatment: as much as possible, summarize the most important, provide the highlights, or just tell your caregiver? When would you like me to provide that information?
- In addition to finding a cure or going into remission, what matters to you most?
 - Improving the quality of your daily life
 - Prolonging survival (a longer life)
 - Preventing complications
 - Being comfortable and pain-free

Notes

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Never hesitate to contact us, we're here to help!

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