

SHOULD A SUSPICION OF CANCER BE DISCLOSED?: A LITERATURE REVIEW

By Shelley Shea
CNS – Cancer Nurse
Coordinator

Patient Story



Truth Disclosure



Eastern
World
Vs
Western
World
View

Diagnostic Moment



“The diagnostic moment”

“Dropping a bomb”

“Breaking bad news”

“Flashbulb moment”

“Hitting the patient over the head”

Discussing Cancer

Distress
Anxiety
Depression
Vs
Power
Control
Knowledge



Pre-Diagnosis



Interviewer:
During this
time did
you
suspect
that you
were
seriously ill?

Interviewee:
Yeah

Communicating That Word **CANCER**

Lump

Malignancy

Tumour

Growth



Shared Decision Making



- Participation
- Preparation
- Anxiety reduction

Pre Diagnosis Disclosure

Open communication about a suspicion of cancer through the diagnostic period which lays the foundations for future therapeutic relationships during the cancer trajectory
(Thorne, et al., 2009).



Cape View Home Inspection, LLC

Provider Communication



- Documentation
- Electronic Communication
- Multi Disciplinary Approach
- Primary/Secondary Interface

Recommendations

- Modified SPIKES
- Patient Centred Communication Model
- Education
- Further Research



References

- Arora, N. K. (2003). Interacting with cancer patients: the significance of physicians' communication behavior. *Soc Sci Med*, 57(5), 791-806.
- Atesci, F. C., Baltalarli, B., Oguzhanoglu, N. K., Karadag, F., Ozdel, O., & Karagoz, N. (2004). Psychiatric morbidity among cancer patients and awareness of illness. *Support Care Cancer*, 12(3), 161-167. doi: 10.1007/s00520-003-0585-y
- Baile, W. F., Buckman, R., Lenzi, R., Glober, G., Beale, E. A., & Kudelka, A. P. (2000). SPIKES-A six-step protocol for delivering bad news: application to the patient with cancer. *Oncologist*, 5(4), 302-311.
- Beach, W. A., Easter, D. W., Good, J. S., & Pigeron, E. (2005). Disclosing and responding to cancer "fears" during oncology interviews. *Social Science & Medicine*, 60(4), 893-910. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2004.06.031>
- Begiri, A., Toci, E., Sallaku, A., Qirjako, G., & Burazeri, G. (2012). Breaking bad news in a Southeast European population: a survey among cancer patients in Albania. *J Palliat Med*, 15(10), 1100-1105. doi: 10.1089/jpm.2012.0068
- Blackhall, L. J., Frank, G., Murphy, S., & Michel, V. (2001). Bioethics in a different tongue: the case of truth-telling. *J Urban Health*, 78(1), 59-71. doi: 10.1093/jurban/78.1.59
- Bou Khalil, R. (2013). Attitudes, beliefs and perceptions regarding truth disclosure of cancer-related information in the Middle East: a review. *Palliat Support Care*, 11(1), 69-78. doi: 10.1017/s1478951512000107
- Bozuk, H., Erdoğan, V., Eken, C., Ciplak, E., Samur, M., Özdoğan, M., & Savaş, B. (2002). Does awareness of diagnosis make any difference to quality of life? *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 10(1), 51-57. doi: 10.1007/s005200100308
- Broom, A., & Adams, J. (2010). The reconfiguration of expertise in oncology: the practice of prediction and articulation of indeterminacy in medical consultations. *Qual Health Res*, 20(10), 1433-1445. doi: 10.1177/1049732310373042
- Buckman, R. (1984). Breaking bad news: why is it still so difficult? *Br Med J (Clin Res Ed)*, 288(6430), 1597-1599.
- Chaitchik, S., Kreitler, S., Shaked, S., Schwartz, I., & Rosin, R. (1992). Doctor-patient communication in a cancer ward. *J Cancer Educ*, 7(1), 41-54. doi: 10.1080/08858199209528141
- Chittim, M., Norman, P., & Harris, P. R. (2013). Relationships between perceived diagnostic disclosure, patient characteristics, psychological distress and illness perceptions in Indian cancer patients. *Psychooncology*, 22(6), 1375-1380. doi: 10.1002/pon.3149

References

- [Da Silva, C. H., Cunha, R. L., Tonaco, R. B., Cunha, T. M., Diniz, A. C., Domingos, G. G., . . . de Paula, R. L. \(2003\). Not telling the truth in the patient-physician relationship. *Bioethics*, 17\(5-6\), 417-424.](#)
- [Dosanjh, S., Barnes, J., & Bhandari, M. \(2001\). Barriers to breaking bad news among medical and surgical residents. *Medical Education*, 35\(3\), 197-205.](#)
- [Eggy, S. S., Albrecht, T. L., Kelly, K., Prigerson, H. G., Sheldon, L. K., & Studts, J. \(2009\). The role of the clinician in cancer clinical communication. *J Health Commun*, 14 Suppl 1, 66-75. doi: 10.1080/10810730902806778](#)
- [Epstein, R. M., & Street, R. L., Jr. \(2007\). *Patient-Centered Communication in Cancer Care: Promoting Healing and Reducing Suffering*. Bethesda, MD: NIH Publication.](#)
- [Fallowfield, L. \(1997\). Truth sometimes hurts but deceit hurts more. *Ann N Y Acad Sci*, 809, 525-536.](#)
- [Fallowfield, L., & Jenkins, V. \(2004\). Communicating sad, bad, and difficult news in medicine. \[Article\]. *Lancet*, 363\(9405\), 312-319.](#)
- [Fallowfield., Jenkins, V. A., & Poole, K. \(2001, 2001/06//\). Are members of multidisciplinary teams in breast cancer aware of each other's informational roles? *Quality in Health Care*, 10, 70.](#)
- [Fowler, F. J., Jr., Gerstein, B. S., & Barry, M. J. \(2013\). How patient centered are medical decisions?: Results of a national survey. *JAMA Intern Med*, 173\(13\), 1215-1221. doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2013.6172](#)
- [Jutel, A. \(2014\). When the penny drops: Diagnosis and the transformative moment. In A. Jutel & K. Dew \(Eds.\), *Social Issues in Diagnosis: An Introduction for Students and Clinicians*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.](#)
- [Kendall, M., Boyd, K., Campbell, C., Cormie, P., Fife, S., Thomas, K., . . . Murray, S. A. \(2006\). How do people with cancer wish to be cared for in primary care? Serial discussion groups of patients and carers. *Fam Pract*, 23\(6\), 644-650. doi: 10.1093/fampra/cml035](#)
- [Kirklin, D. \(2007\). Truth telling, autonomy and the role of metaphor. *J Med Ethics*, 33\(1\), 11-14. doi: 10.1136/jme.2005.014993](#)
- [Kunin, J. \(2002\). Should patients be told the truth about their illnesses: Jewish perspectives. *Isr Med Assoc J*, 4\(9\), 737-741.](#)
- [Lansdown, M., Martin, L., & Fallowfield, L. \(2008\). Patient-physician interactions during early breast-cancer treatment: results from an international online survey. *Curr Med Res Opin*, 24\(7\), 1891-1904. doi: 10.1185/03007990802135042](#)

References

- [Lee, S. J., Back, A. L., Block, S. D., & Stewart, S. K. \(2002\). Enhancing physician-patient communication. *Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program*, 464-483.](#)
- [Leydon, G. M., Boulton, M., Moynihan, C., Jones, A., Mossman, J., Boudioni, M., & McPherson, K. \(2000\). Cancer patients' information needs and information seeking behaviour: in depth interview study. *Bmj*, 320\(7239\), 909-913.](#)
- [Leydon, G. M., Bynoe-Sutherland, J., & Coleman, M. P. \(2003\). The journey towards a cancer diagnosis: the experiences of people with cancer, their family and carers. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 12\(4\), 317-326. doi: 10.1046/j.1365-2354.2003.00418.x](#)
- [McCormack, L. A., Treiman, K., Rupert, D., Williams-Piehota, P., Nadler, E., Arora, N. K., . . . Street, R. L., Jr. \(2011\). Measuring patient-centered communication in cancer care: a literature review and the development of a systematic approach. *Soc Sci Med*, 72\(7\), 1085-1095. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2011.01.020](#)
- [Ministry of Health. \(2013\). Faster Cancer Treatment Programme Retrieved October 5th, 2014, from <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/cancer-programme/faster-cancer-treatment-programme>](#)
- [O'Riordan, M., Dahinden, A., Akturk, Z., Ortiz, J. M., Dagdeviren, N., Elwyn, G., . . . Thesen, J. \(2011\). Dealing with uncertainty in general practice: an essential skill for the general practitioner. *Qual Prim Care*, 19\(3\), 175-181.](#)
- [Oliffe, J., Thorne, S., Hislop, T. G., & Armstrong, E. A. \(2007\). "Truth telling" and cultural assumptions in an era of informed consent. *Fam Community Health*, 30\(1\), 5-15.](#)
- [Prouty, C. D., Mazor, K. M., Greene, S. M., Roblin, D. W., Firneno, C. L., Lemay, C. A., . . . Gallagher, T. H. \(2014\). Providers' Perceptions of Communication Breakdowns in Cancer Care. *J Gen Intern Med*. doi: 10.1007/s11606-014-2769-1](#)
- [Rabow, M. W., & McPhee, S. L. \(1999\). Beyond breaking bad news: How to help patients who suffer. *Western Journal of Medicine*, 171\(4\), 260-263.](#)
- [Rogers, J., & Niven, E. \(1996\). *Ethics: a guide for New Zealand nurses*. New Zealand: Addison Wesley Longman New Zealand Limited.](#)

References

- [Sainio, C., & Eriksson, E. \(2003\). Keeping cancer patients informed: a challenge for nursing. *Eur J Oncol Nurs*, 7\(1\), 39-49.](#)
- [Salander, P. \(2002\). Bad news from the patient's perspective: an analysis of the written narratives of newly diagnosed cancer patients. *Soc Sci Med*, 55\(5\), 721-732.](#)
- [Schaepe, K. S. \(2011\). Bad news and first impressions: patient and family caregiver accounts of learning the cancer diagnosis. *Soc Sci Med*, 73\(6\), 912-921. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2011.06.038](#)
- [Schofield, P. E., Butow, P. N., Thompson, J. F., Tattersall, M. H., Beeney, L. J., & Dunn, S. M. \(2003\). Psychological responses of patients receiving a diagnosis of cancer. *Ann Oncol*, 14\(1\), 48-56.](#)
- [Seifart, C., Hofmann, M., Bar, T., Riera Knorrenchild, J., Seifart, U., & Rief, W. \(2014\). Breaking bad news-what patients want and what they get: evaluating the SPIKES protocol in Germany. *Ann Oncol*, 25\(3\), 707-711. doi: 10.1093/annonc/mdt582](#)
- [Spiegel, W., Zidek, T., Maier, M., Vutuc, C., Isak, K., Karlic, H., & Micksche, M. \(2009\). Breaking bad news to cancer patients: survey and analysis. *Psychooncology*, 18\(2\), 179-186. doi: 10.1002/pon.1383](#)
- [Surbone, A. \(2006\). Telling the truth to patients with cancer: what is the truth? *Lancet Oncol*, 7\(11\), 944-950. doi: 10.1016/s1470-2045\(06\)70941-x](#)
- [Thorne, S., Armstrong, E. A., Harris, S. R., Hislop, T. G., Kim-Sing, C., Oglov, V., . . . Stajduhar, K. I. \(2009\). Patient real-time and 12-month retrospective perceptions of difficult communications in the cancer diagnostic period. *Qual Health Res*, 19\(10\), 1383-1394. doi: 10.1177/1049732309348382](#)
- [Thorne, S., Oliffe, J., Kim-Sing, C., Hislop, T. G., Stajduhar, K., Harris, S. R., . . . Oglov, V. \(2010\). Helpful communications during the diagnostic period: an interpretive description of patient preferences. *Eur J Cancer Care \(Engl\)*, 19\(6\), 746-754. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2354.2009.01125.x](#)
- [Wiener, R. S., Gould, M. K., Woloshin, S., Schwartz, L. M., & Clark, J. A. \(2013\). What do you mean, a spot?: A qualitative analysis of patients' reactions to discussions with their physicians about pulmonary nodules. *Chest*, 143\(3\), 672-677. doi: 10.1378/chest.12-1095](#)