Patient Involvement in Healthcare Decisions: Patient Perspectives

Aileen J

Assistant Professor, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Life and Allied Health Scien

Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore





ABSTRACT

The active participation of patients in healthcare decision-making is an essential component of providing patient-centered care and ensuring the delivery of high-quality healthcare services. This study aims to examine the perspectives of patients regarding their participation in healthcare decision-making within the general public. A mixed-methods approach is employed to collect data, encompassing both qualitative and quantitative data through the use of surveys. The objective of this study is to investigate patient awareness regarding their rights, their experiences of engagement in healthcare decisions, and the various factors that influence their level of participation. The results of the study highlighted the need for creating awareness and involving patients and attenders in decision making. Overall patients experience was satisfactory.

CONTACT

Aileen J
Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences
aileen2020j@gmail.com
+91-9611584535

INTRODUCTION

Patient-centered care is a fundamental principle of contemporary healthcare, which prioritizes the active engagement of patients in making decisions related to their health and treatment. It is crucial to acknowledge and uphold the rights of patients to make well-informed decisions regarding their healthcare in order to attain the best possible healthcare outcomes. In light of the importance of patient engagement, it is imperative to examine the viewpoints of the general public regarding their involvement in healthcare decision-making.

Aim

The objective of this study is to examine the perspectives of patients regarding their engagement in healthcare decision-making within the broader population

Objectives

1. To assess perception of patients regarding patients right and healthcare decision
2. To Recommend measures to empower patients/attenders

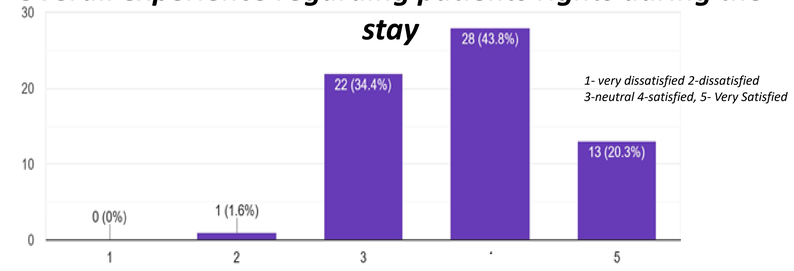
MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Cross sectional study design
- This study utilizes a mixed-methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- The primary data collection instrument is a structured survey comprising a set of 15 questions (5 point Likert scale) and 3 open ended questions
- Convenient sampling
- Sample size- 189
- Inclusion- At least one visit to hospital as patient or attender in the last one year

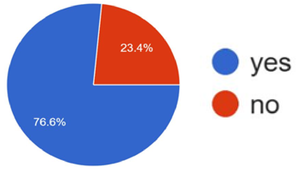
RESULTS

- 62% of the participants said the consent was not explained to them clearly
- 82.8 % participants said, they like to collaborate with doctors in deciding their treatment plan
- 34% said they feel empowered at hospital
- 69 % said they need a platform to raise the concerns
- *23.4% of participants said they are not aware of patient rights in the hospital*
- 22% of the participants had at least one bad experience in the hospital during their treatment
- 15.6% patients felt they were not given opportunity to ask questions

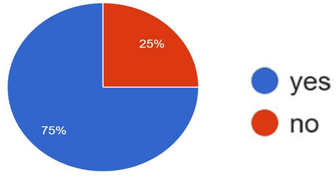
Overall experience regarding patients rights during the stay



GRAPHS



Awareness about patient rights



If you had concerns or complaints during your hospital stay, did you feel comfortable raising them with hospital staff?

DISCUSSION

- Numerous studies have explored shared decision-making between patients and healthcare providers. They emphasize the importance of involving patients in decisions about their care. These studies often assess the impact of decision aids, patient decision aids, and decision support tools in facilitating patient participation.
- Patient-centered care studies examine healthcare approaches that prioritize patients' needs, preferences, and values. These studies delve into the factors that contribute to patient-centered care, including effective communication, patient involvement, and respect for patients' rights.
- Research on patient rights and advocacy examines patients' awareness of their rights and their experiences in asserting those rights. .

CONCLUSION

This study has shed light on the multifaceted aspects of patient participation in healthcare decisions from the viewpoint of the general public. This mixed-methods investigation, aimed to comprehensively understand patient awareness, experiences, and challenges related to their involvement in healthcare decisions.

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