Does Patient Specific Literature Add to Patient Understanding?

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Conflict of Interest

- NO CONFLICT TO DISCLOSE

Does Patient Specific Literature Add to Patient Understanding?
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My disclosure is in the Final AOFAS Mobile App.

I have no potential conflicts with this presentation.
Is True Informed Consent Ever Gained?

- Risks of surgery
- Benefits of surgery
- Likely Postoperative Course
- Risks of doing nothing
- Recovery period
- Time off work
- Inability to Drive
- Time till operation

Informed Consent
Informed Consent

• Better Outcomes
• Less Litigation
• Accurate Expectations
• Happier Patients
How Do We Get An Informed Patient?

- Multimedia
- Specialist Consent Clinic
- Videos
- Internet
- Information Leaflets
- Consent Form
- Asking Relatives and Friends
- Questions
Modes of Patient Information

- Multiple methods have been used to inform patients.

- We compared the readability of;
  1. Consent Forms
  2. Information Leaflets – generic
  3. Patient Specific Letters – written by lead clinician in layman's terms for each patient undergoing surgery

- Does improved readability correlate with improved recall and patient satisfaction.
Consent Forms v Information Leaflets v Patient Specific Letters

**Consent Forms**
- Readability Score: 30.5
- Complex words: 19%
- Understood by University Graduates

**Information Leaflets**
- Readability Score: 52
- Complex words: 16%
- Understood by 16 – 17 yr

**Patient Specific Literature**
- Readability Score: 62
- Complex words: 9%
- Understood by 13-15 year olds
Recall and Satisfaction of Consent Process

Consent Form Only

- Recall of 3 risks = 0%
- Recall of NWB post op = 42%
- Satisfaction = 4/10

Consent Form + Information Leaflet

- Recall of 3 risks = 19%
- Recall of NWB post op = 61%
- Satisfaction = 5/10

Consent Form + Patient Specific Literature

- Recall of 3 risks = 33%
- Recall of NWB post op = 61%
- Satisfaction = 6/10
Conclusions

- Recommendations of National Institute for Health on information suitable for 11-12 yr olds not being followed
- Information on consent forms and information leaflets is inappropriate for most patients.
- Improved readability seen in simple patient specific letters
- Correlates to improved recall of risks, post operative course and satisfaction
- Recall of risks remains poor
References


Shurnas P, Coughlin M: Recall of risks of forefoot surgery after informed consent. FAI 2003 Dec;24(12):904-8