"You have to work with me": a thematic analysis of patient experiences in breast cancer treatment decision-making

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INTRODUCTION

- **Shared decision-making (SDM)** is based on information-sharing, deliberation of options, and evaluation of patient preferences
- Growing evidence shows **potentially equivalent outcomes** for some breast cancer therapies
- **Few have studied** decision-making regarding medical therapies for early-stage breast cancer

OBJECTIVES

- **Characterize patient experiences** in breast cancer medical treatment decision-making
- **Determine gaps** in information sharing for breast cancer therapies

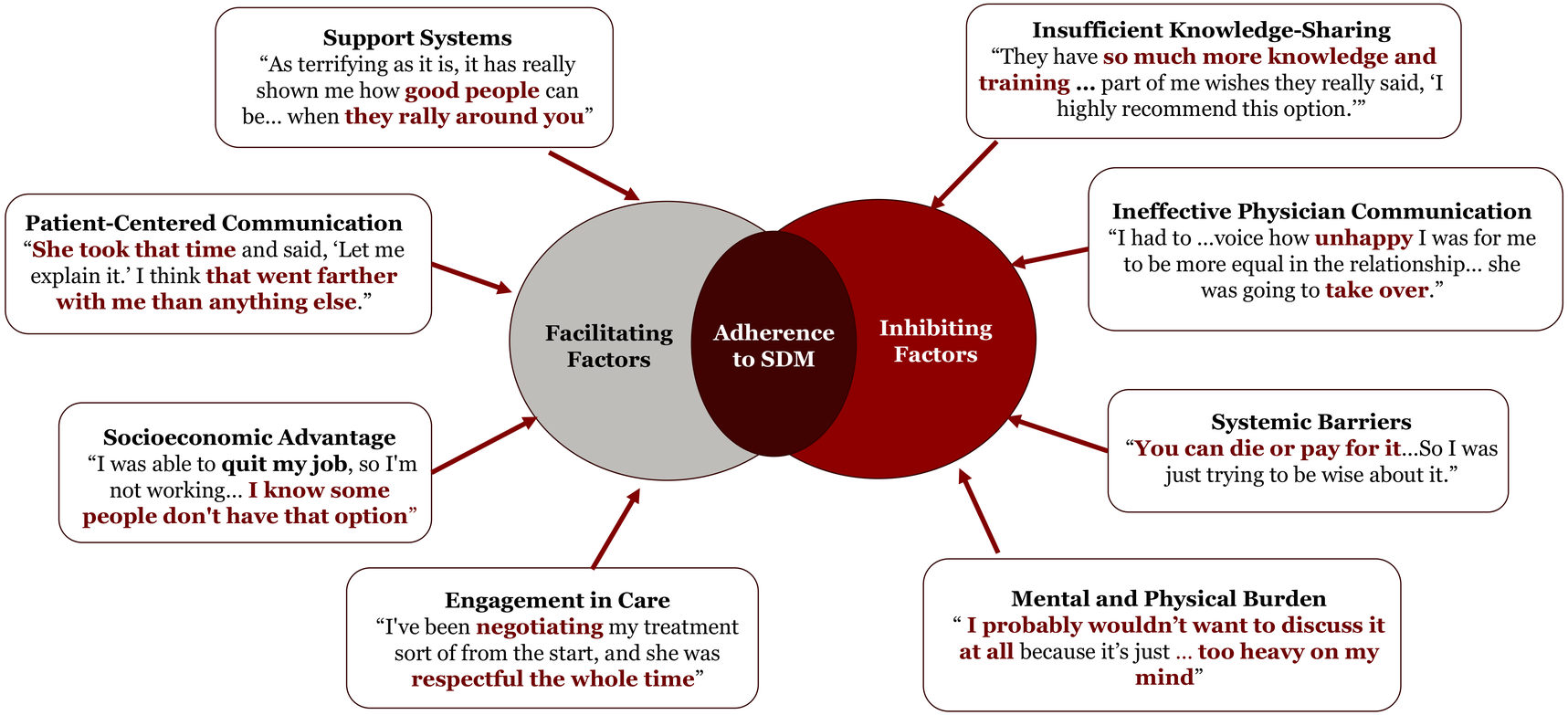
METHODS

Participants
- 20 patients with breast cancer diagnosed in previous year in US

Data Collection
- Semi-structured interviews about treatment decision-making and communication with oncologists
- Comparison chart presented to patients based on PERSEPHONE trial data to understand patient preferences in communication of treatment options

Analysis
- Thematic analysis of deidentified interview transcripts by two study team members

RESULTS: THEMATIC ANALYSIS



RESULTS

- **Patient preferences varied** when presented with multiple treatment durations
  - Some patients welcomed choice, others had reservations
- Most patients interviewed were **not presented with options** in their treatment, which was perceived as a negative component of their treatment

CONCLUSIONS

- **Facilitating and inhibiting factors** impact implementation of SDM in breast cancer treatment
- Patients want **more information and deliberation** regarding their treatment
- Presenting options in a comparison form may allow patients to **engage in treatment discussions**

AUTHORS and REFERENCES



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