



B1 Patient Hot Sheet – Case 2

AHQR SHARE* prompts:

Seek your patient's participation

Help your patient explore and compare treatment options

Assess your patient's values and preferences

Reach a decision with your patient

Evaluate your patient's decision

Patient Description

Jason Santiago:

- Is a 46-year-old Venezuelan male with GG2 prostate cancer in 2 cores. Your PSA was 7.5ng/ml and your prostate volume was 57cc; PSA density is 0.14.
- Is predominantly Spanish speaking
- Has his 22-year-old bilingual son, Ernie, in the examining room with him. Ernie is willing to serve as an interpreter, but Mr. Santiago has some reservations in discussing sexual side effects with his son in the room. He would prefer Ernie stays in the room for most of the discussion, however.
- His erections are good without any medications now and he wants to talk about erection concerns privately with the urologist/clinician without his son in the room. He does want Ernie involved in the decision overall.
- Has no family history of prostate cancer and has never had surgery or radiation in the past. Minimal LUTS symptoms.
- Jason and his son communicated with the Urology Clinician by phone last week and through the online patient portal. They found out that he has Favorable Intermediate Risk prostate cancer.
- Ernie helped him look up the treatment options for Favorable Intermediate Risk prostate cancer.
- Recently lost his job and will likely lose his health insurance in the coming 3 months. He is worried that his lack of insurance will make active surveillance expensive. He is interested in discussing surgery vs. radiation as options for favorable intermediate risk prostate cancer.

SCRIPT: You are the "PATIENT"

Clinician: "Hello Mr. Santiago, I understand you are aware of the biopsy results. Today we should discuss your treatment options. Remind me, do we need an interpreter?"



Patient: “Hi (Clinician name), it is nice to see you again. My son Ernie and I appreciate you sharing the diagnosis with me using the patient portal. It helped us prepare for the appointment once we looked at the NCCN Prostate Cancer Treatment Guidelines for Patients, like you suggested. I feel better prepared to discuss the treatment options. My wife is working so could not be here, but my son Ernie will help me understand your decision.

Other than mild high blood pressure and high cholesterol, I feel that I am healthy and could handle any of the treatments. What do you think I should do?”

Clinician: Seeks to engage patient in shared decision making

Patient: “I would really like to discuss this with you and want to hear the options and which one you think is best. I want to share that my COBRA insurance is going to end in three months, so I do not think active surveillance is a good option for me. What are my options (Clinician name)?”

Clinician Helps explore the pros and cons of the following options:

- Radiotherapy
- Radical prostatectomy
- Focal therapies (MRI guided HIFU is Medicare covered but he’s more likely to have out of pocket costs)

Patient: You are free to ask any ONE question you want to compare the treatment options

Clinician: will **Assess** the patient’s values

Patient: “I really do not want to have a lot of medical bills since my wife is the only one working right now. I have not had surgery or radiation before. My wife and I have a couple of **personal** questions to ask you.

PAUSE:

- **IF THE CLINICIAN ASKS IF YOU NEED PRIVACY, SAY:** “Yes”
- **IF SON IS DISMISSED FROM ROOM AND THERE IS AN INTERPRETER PRESENT SAY:** “My wife and I do enjoy sex a lot and I have good erections currently; what kind of success do you have with preserving erections with the robotic prostatectomy?”
- **IF SON IS NOT DISMISSED AND THERE IS NO INTERPRETER SAY:** “I have read that radiation tends to preserve all of your functions better than prostatectomy. Is that true?”



Clinician: works to **Reach** a decision with the patient.

Note: Giving the patient time to think it over is an acceptable course too.

Patient:

IF CONVERSATION IS NOT WITH AN INTERPRETER OR THE SON IS PRESENT, RESPOND AS FOLLOWS: Continue to ask about the radiation therapy side effects then say, “Given what I understand about the pros and cons of each approach now, I think I will choose radiation.” I prefer to maintain my function for at least the next couple of years.

IF CONVERSATION IS WITH AN INTERPRETER AND SON IS NOT PRESENT RESPOND AS FOLLOWS: “Thanks for having an interpreter present for our discussion and for giving us this time in private to discuss my erections and concerns! I think I will go with the radical prostatectomy using the robotic approach. It also will save me money in the long run since I won’t have to risk being treated without insurance.”

Clinician: Evaluates the patient’s decision

Patient: “Thanks Doc for making me feel comfortable with this plan. You laid out some good options and I will share this with my wife with the help of my son.”

Clinician: wraps up the visit

*Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

<https://www.ahrq.gov/health-literacy/professional-training/shared-decision/index.html>