

Special Mentor Research Project

Impact of Cultural and Familial Ties in the Decision-Making Preferences of Asian American & non-Hispanic White Cardiovascular Patients

Doctor Elephants

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Meet the Team



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Vijay Prakash Gupta
Ayurveda and Naturopathy Practitioner

Naveli's Grandfather

Research Question



How do **cultural & familial factors**
affect **patients'**
decision-making process for
cardiovascular procedures?

Study Outcomes

- In depth analysis of **family involvement in decision-making**
 - Family structure
 - Relationships
- Explore how **generational issues** within the family and **acculturation** can impact medical decisions
- Understanding the **influence** of...
 - Health beliefs
 - Information seeking behaviors
 - Use of traditional & complementary medicines



Why does this matter?



Pacemaker



Catheter Ablation

- **Uninformed patient decisions** can lead to:
 - Reduced autonomy
 - Less trust in physician & medical system
 - Discontinued medical treatment
- **Most common cardiovascular procedures** at Stanford electrophysiology clinic:
 - Catheter Ablation
 - Pacemaker

Gap in Literature

We've searched the literature and there aren't...

1. **Validated survey questions**
2. **Survey frameworks**
3. **Quantitative scales**



for cultural and familial variables in patient decision-making

Methods

Cross-Sectional

Qualitative

Semi-Structured Interview

Stratification by physician

Rolling enrollment until 10 per group

Continue enrollment till thematic saturation

Patient Recruitment Criteria

Inclusion	Exclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Adult (18+)● Both biological sexes● Patients of cardiac electrophysiology clinic● NHW and AAs in following groups:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Vietnamese, Korean, Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese● Able to consent in English and follow study instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Non-English Speaker● High medical complexity● Patient not primary decision maker● Inappropriate for inclusion per primary cardiologist

Creating the Semi-Structured Interview Guide



Creating the Interview

DOMAINS



Information from Medical Professionals

- Cardiologist visits
- Conversations with cardiologist and nurses



Patient Decision-Making

SURVEY QUESTIONS

What options did your cardiologist give you?

How likely are you to go along with your cardiologist's recommendation?

INTERVIEW QUESTION

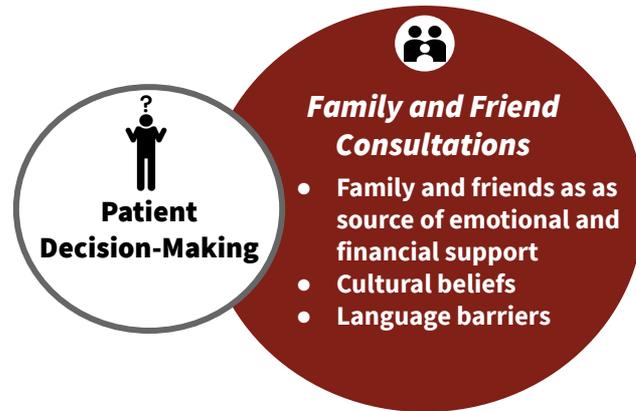
I see that you had [procedure] on [x date].
Can you tell me a little more about this procedure and why you had it?

Creating the Interview

DOMAINS

SURVEY QUESTIONS

INTERVIEW QUESTION



Did you talk to anyone in your family or any of your friends about this procedure?

How often do you involve your family/friends when making medical decisions?

When taking important medical decisions, many people speak to their family and friends.
Did you do the same for this procedure?

Creating the Interview

DOMAINS

SURVEY QUESTIONS

INTERVIEW QUESTION



***Complementary and
Alternative Medicine
Practices***

- Attitudes & Beliefs

*Do you use any alternative or
complementary medicine practices?*

*Have you told your cardiologist about
your practices?*

Many people try treat cardiac
conditions with herbs,
supplements, or other
therapies.

**In treating your condition,
did you try anything like
this?**

Creating the Interview

DOMAINS



Information from Medical Professionals

- Cardiologist visits
- Conversations with cardiologist & nurses



Patient Decision-Making

Family and Friend Consultations

- Family and friends as as source of emotional and financial support
- Cultural beliefs
- Language barriers



Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practices

- Attitudes & Beliefs

SURVEY QUESTIONS

What options did your cardiologist give you?

How likely are you to go along with your cardiologist's recommendation?

Did you talk to anyone in your family or any of your friends about this procedure?

How often do you involve your family/friends when making medical decisions?

Do you use any alternative or complementary medicine practices?

Have you told your cardiologist about your practices?

INTERVIEW QUESTION

I see that you had [procedure] on [x date].
Can you tell me a little more about this procedure and why you had it?

When taking important medical decisions, many people speak to their family and friends.
Did you do the same for this procedure?

Many people try treat cardiac conditions with herbs, supplements, or other therapies.
In treating your condition, did you try anything like this?

Limitations

STUDY DESIGN

- **No valid scales**
- Limited question standardization
- Patient availability

DATA

- Small sample size
- **Inability to record**
 - Difficult to capture quotes

GENERALIZABILITY

- **Geographical bias**
 - Single center in Bay Area, California

Future Steps

Continue Enrolling Patients

- 8 patients enrolled
- Interview script and patient contact scripts need to be **finalized**
- Some IRB approvals still pending



Narrative Review Perspective Paper

- Pivot to more feasible school-year project
- **Gap in literature**
 - No scales to measure family involvement, cultural variables

Sources

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Additional Background

- ❖ About 5% Asian Pacific Islander (API) have Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) & 1/3 deaths from Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)
 - NHW trend decrease but AA far less
- ❖ Different subgroup specifics vs NHW
 - Asian Indian & Filipino higher ischemic heart disease mortality



Margaret Feng
Ellie's Grandmother

Interview Matrix Example

Domain	Sub-Domain	Main Follow-Up	Secondary Follow-Up	Details / Specifics to Listen for	Item Response Notes
GUIDING QUESTION	Can you please tell me a little bit about yourself? Like where you're from and what you do...				
NOTE BOX					
General Demographic Information	Nativity/International Experience	Where were you born?	1. Did you grow up there? 1a. OUTSIDE US: When did you move to the US?	US = state, if moved around ; OUTSIDE US = location, length of stay before move to US	
		Have you ever lived in any other country before?	YES: What country? How long did you live there? NO/NA: [move on]		
	Highest level of completed education	Can you tell me about where you went to school and what you studied?			
	Racial/Ethnic Self-Identification	What ethnic group do you identify with?	ASIAN UNSPECIFIED: Which subgroup do you identify with? [can provide some examples if confused]		
	Language	What languages do you speak or are you fluent in?	IF ANSWER "CHINESE": Can you please specify what kind of Chinese language? (also can be reframed for other grouped languages)		
			ONE: [note which one and move on]		
			MORE THAN 1: 1. What language do you speak at home? MORE THAN 1: 2. What language are you more comfortable using?		
Relationship with Family & Friends	In general, when you have an important decision to make, who do you talk to about it?	NO ONE: [move on]			
		SOMEONE - FAMILY: Who do you usually go to?			
		SOMEONE - FRIEND: How close are you to this person? SOMEONE - MISC: How close are you to this person?			
Employment	Are you working right now?	YES: What do you do?			
		NO: What was your most current job?			
		NO: Are you pursuing any new work at the moment? [yes] What kind? [no] (move on)			
		NO: In retirement			