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THE INTEGRATION BETWEEN CLINICAL PRATICE AND RESEARCH

The role of cultural attitudes

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Perception of care in the ICU

...Improving the quality and perception of health care for seriously ill patients, and particularly for those at the end of their lives, has become a major national, clinical, and research objective...

Quantitative studies

Patient comfort,
Symptom management,
Emotional support,
Information and education,
Communication and competence.

Qualitative studies

Care provider response and
time with patient,
Providers' interactional approach,
Service coordination,
Consistency and flexibility,
Personalized and individual care,
Facility environment.

The role of cultural attitudes

Patient-Centered Values

- Attention to patient values
- Support to patient decision making

Patients

Patient-Centered Care Systems

- Accessibility and continuity
- Team communication and coordination

Cognitive/affective skills

- Competence
- Pain and symptoms management
- Emotional support
- Personalization

**Health care
Providers**

Communication skills

- Communication with patient/family
- Education of patient/family
- Inclusion and recognition of family

Family

**Conceptual
model**

The cultural attitudes

...shared knowledge and customary actions, constituted by social systems, manifest in the rules, roles, relationships, and actions of persons...

1. European Survey (504 European intensive care physicians from 16 western European countries): substantial differences between stated beliefs and actual end-of-life practices, particularly relating to the admission of patients with little prospect of survival and methods of withholding and withdrawal of life-sustaining treatments.
2. The ETHICUS study: interregional differences in medical practices regarding end-of-life care in Europe.
3. The WELPICUS study: consensus for only 81% of 81 definitions and statements from 32 countries.
4. Asian survey (16 countries and regions): that wide practice variations were evident even if active withdrawal of life-sustaining treatments was rare.

Culture

Cultural attitudes: the patient

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Cultural attitudes: the patient

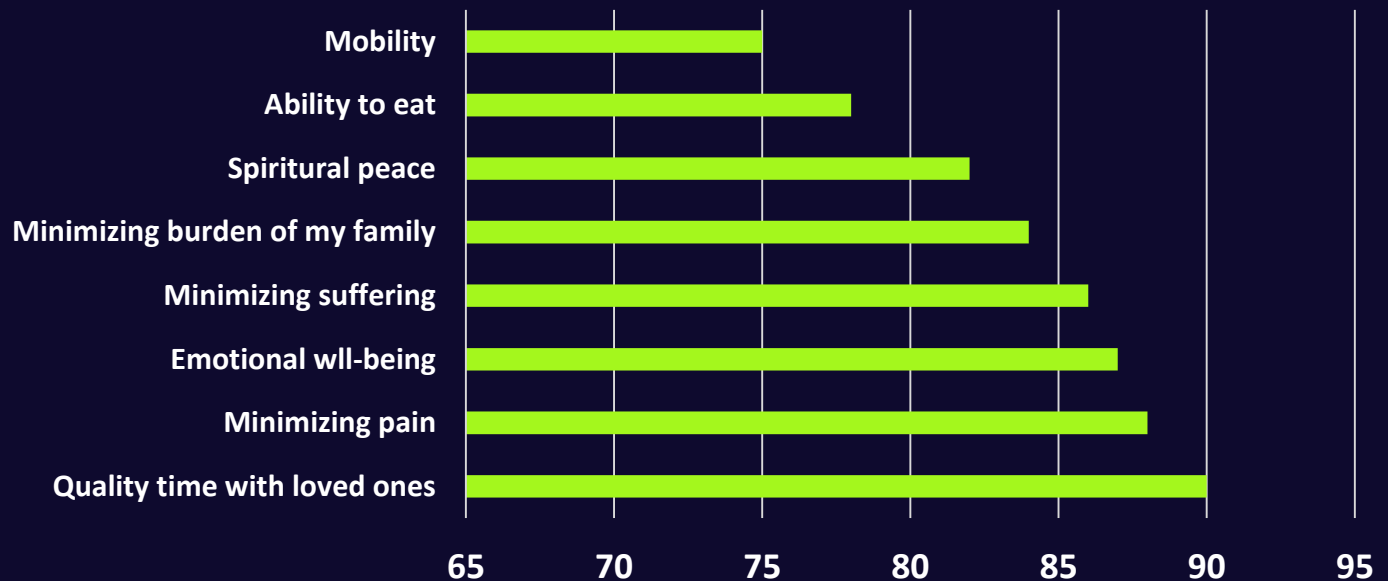
Patient-Centered Values

- Attention to patient values
- Support to patient decision making

Patients

Culture

Important factors



Cultural attitudes: the patient



Has your loved one ever shared concerns or wishes about end of life?

Italians 65%
Not-Italians 32%

How do you define the quality of communication between you and your loved one concerning their medical conditions?

	Italians	Not-Italians
We acknowledge the conditions but discussions do not fully discuss the implications of those conditions.	30%	55%
We communicate openly at some times with some family members.	70%	15%

Cultural attitudes: the patient



Has your loved one ever shared concerns or wishes about end of life?

Northerner 85%
Southerner 54%

How do you define the quality of communication between you and your loved one concerning their medical conditions?

	Northerner	Southerner
We acknowledge the conditions but discussions do not fully discuss the implications of those conditions.	25%	55%
We communicate openly at some times with some family members.	75%	35%

Cultural attitudes: the providers

Patient-Centered Values

- Attention to patient values
- Support to patient decision making

Patients

Patient-Centered Care Systems

- Accessibility and continuity
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Culture

Cognitive/affective skills

- Competence
- Pain and symptoms management
- Emotional support
- Personalization

Providers

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Cultural attitudes: the providers

Patient-Centered Care Systems

- Accessibility and continuity
- Team communication and coordination

Cognitive/affective skills

- Competence
- Pain and symptoms management
- Emotional support
- Personalization

Culture

Providers

«abandoned»

«gap»

**Follow-up
calls**

«mess»

«lack of communication»

«denied»

Cultural attitudes: the providers

Lack of continuity

Environment

Personal attitude

Strategies for Promoting a Healing Environment

Liberalized Family Visitation

Physician

Others

Specialites

Interpretation of formal rules

Medical director

Informal rules

Early moves away from disease-driven care in the illness trajectory

Patient's goal was to survive... until treatment options have been exhausted.

Specialites

Medical intensivist

Surgeons

Cultural attitudes: the family

Patient-Centered Values

- Attention to patient values
- Support to patient decision making

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Patient-Centered Care Systems

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Cognitive/affective skills

- Competence
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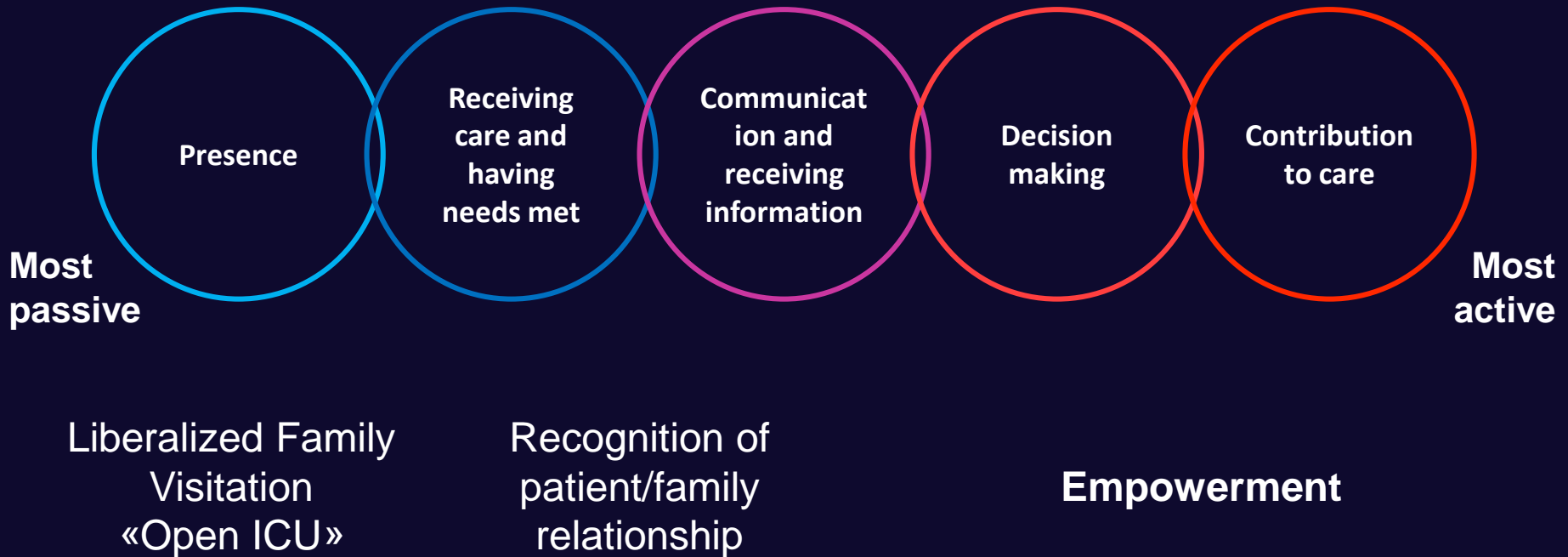
Cultural attitudes: the family

Culture

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Cultural attitudes: the family



Direct contribution to care		
	Spontaneously	Actively involved
Italians	65%	100%
Not-Italians	15%	72%

Direct contribution to care		
	Spontaneously	Actively involved
Northerner	85%	100%
Southerner	100%	100%



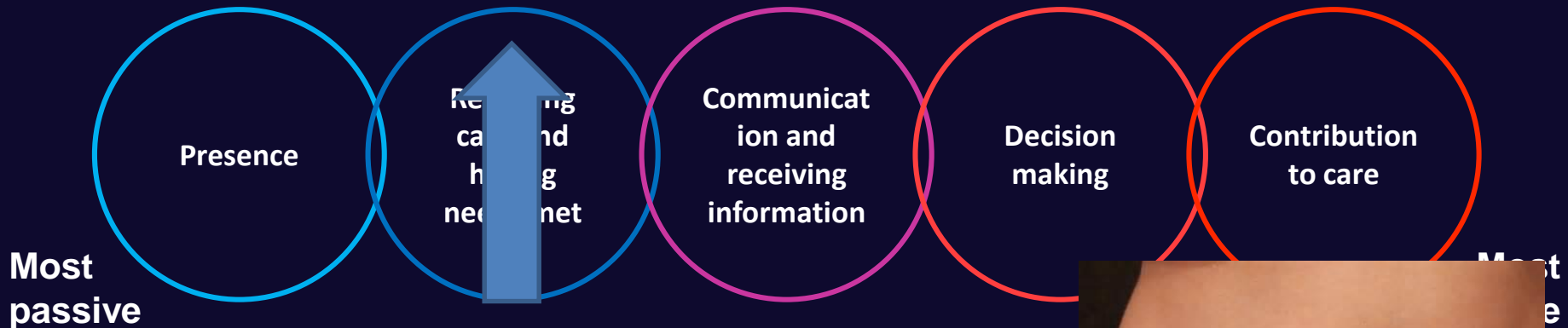
Cultural attitudes: the family

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Stoma surgery in couple relationship:
preliminary analysis about caregiver's experiences

