



# The Patient's Voice Matters

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Improving Healthcare by Engaging  
Patients and Carers



# Workshop Schedule

- **9:00 – 9:20 Introduction & icebreaker**
- **9:20- 10:20 Engaging patients at all levels of healthcare**
- **10:20 – 10:35 Coffee break**
- **10:35 – 11:15 Teaching doctors to listen: patient story telling to help doctors improve their communication skills**
- **11:15 – 12:15 Beyond informed consent: shared decision making**
- **12:15 – 12:30 Q & A**

# Johnny's Story

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# Johnny's Story

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# Gilbert's Story





# Gilbert's Story



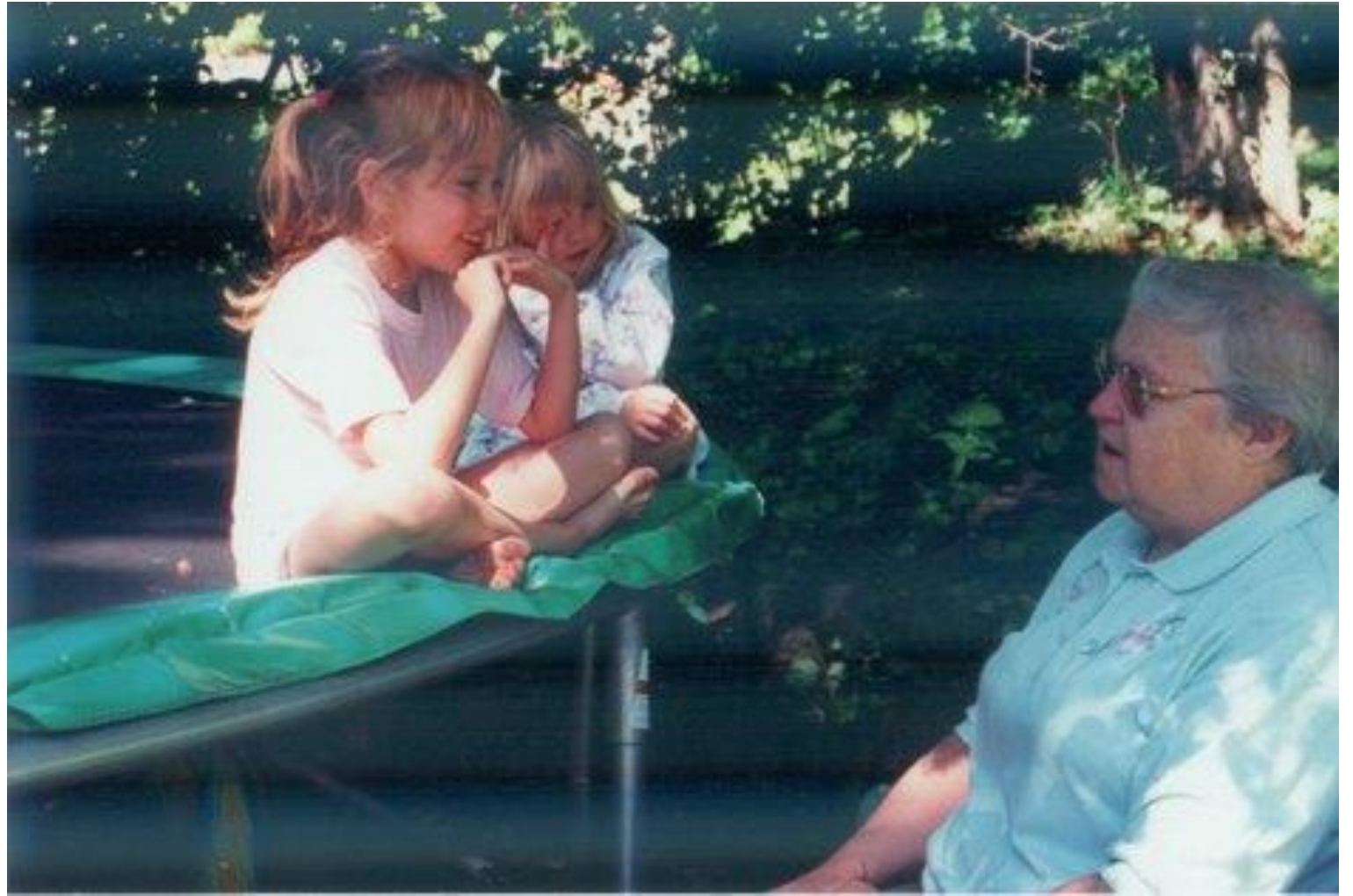


Lessons  
from my  
mother



# Lessons from my mother

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# Lessons from My Mother



Katrines grandmother  
Brynhild  
at 91 years





Q & A





## **The case for involving patients to present at health conferences**

### **Workshop**



**Jean Straus & Sandra Jayacodi**





## Aims

To understand the importance of patient presenting at conferences and how this can be achieved

To consider how to write an abstract demonstrating patient involvement



**Why is it important to include patients as presenter at conferences?**

**Table discussion**



## Why is it important to involve patients in conferences?

- Creates a **bigger impact** on the public and clinicians and you get better buy in
- Helps **drive information dissemination** and creates **better visibility** among the general public
- Your patient team member can share the **findings within their local community**.
- A **new voice is added to the discussion** – let them share their thoughts and talk about the issues that matter to them most
- Acknowledging that patients are also **part of the team**, gives patients value and recognition.



## Where we are today

- **Case study** : BMJ conference 2023
- Abstracts submitted :
- Selected to present live sessions : 75
- Total speakers - 100
- Patient speakers -10 (10%)





**Possible reasons for low patient presenters**

**How can conference organisers overcome them?**

**Table discussion**



## Possible reasons for low patient presenters and how to overcome them (1)

- Personal factors - what is it about the patient that is different from the "professional"

Accessibility

Time

Caring responsibilities

Lack professional and academic background  
to give them the confidence to engage

- Call for patient presenters not clear in abstract



Call for  
Abstracts

An illustration on the left side of the slide. It shows a hand in a red sleeve holding a brown wooden stick. At the top of the stick is a white rectangular sign with the word 'FUNDING' written in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. Below the sign, there are several gold coins, including one with a pound sterling symbol (£) visible. The background is a light blue gradient.

# FUNDING

## Possible reasons for low patient presenters and how to overcome them (1)

- Lack of funding for patient presenters – should this have been factored into the initial cost
- Language barriers – interpreters
- Lack of confidence –video clip or help patients with public speaking
- Patient team members have not made significant contribution to the project - Possible training on how to contribute to the project and what is expected of the patient.



## How to Write an Abstract for a Conference

# Completing the patient involvement section in the abstract for BMJ conferences

Looking for a strong preference for content that is co-designed with or led by patients or service users

The two questions to answer on the abstracts are :

- 1. How were patients and carers involved in the conception, design, or implementation of your project?
- 2. How will patients be included in the design and delivery of the presentation?

[Table Discussion](#)





## Abstracts for conferences

BMJ guideline for reviewing patient involvement section in the abstract:

- Is the work the abstract describes relevant and important to patients and/or carers and/or service users?
- Are the outcomes described/measured in the study important to patients/carers/service users? Are there others that should have been considered?
- Do you think the **level of patient/carer/service user involvement in the study could have been improved**? If there was none do you have ideas on how they might have done so?
- Have they included details on how patients/carers/service users will **be involved in the presentation or workshop**? If not, do you have ideas on how they might do so?

## BMJ - Free registration places for patient co presenters



Each session is [eligible for one additional free place for a patient co-presenter](#) (patients are also welcome to apply as lead presenters)

A patient is defined as someone who has lived experience of using health services as a patient, or as the main carer of a patient. They should have a leading role in the project/initiative and have made a significant contribution to its design, conduct, assessment of outcome and /or subsequent development based on this experience. [There will be funding available to cover travel and accommodation for patient presenters, subject to a separate application process.](#)

## Key message

- When patients are part of conferences they raise awareness of patients
- Including patients in health conferences can help delegates to **understand problems that matter most to patients** and their caregivers
- Including patients can **spark collaborations with patients** in healthcare design, education, research, and clinical care improvements
- When patient are really included they help create conference programs and even select speakers





