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Knowledge, Research & Advocacy in PH



# PHenomenal Hope 2024

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Expert consensus on patient engagement strategies and shared decision-making to improve patient outcomes in pulmonary arterial hypertension

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## **Speaker Disclosures**

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• JR has served as research, advisor, and speaker for Johnson & Johnson, Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals, Liquidia, Merck, and United Therapeutics.



# Background

- Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) remains a disease with a significant impact on the clinical, psychological, social, and emotional functioning of patients requiring a multidisciplinary approach.<sup>1-3</sup>
- Educational initiatives, shared decision-making, and timely access to care empowers patients to be more engaged in managing their disease.1 Such strategies may help patients improve adherence to therapy, especially when starting or escalating treatment, achieve and maintain a low-risk status, and improve overall survival.<sup>4-8</sup>
- However, there still exists a gap for best practices and strategies to improve patient engagement and promote shared-decision making in PAH.

**Objective:** To collate, clarify, and develop a consensus of expert clinical opinion on strategies for patient engagement and shared decision-making in treating patients with PAH.



1. McGoon MD, et al. Eur Respir J. 2019;53(1). 2. Humbert M, et al. Eur Heart J. 2022;43(38):3618-3731. 3. Gin-Sing W. Nursing Standard. 2010;24(38). 4. Wilson M, et al. Pulm Circ. 2022;12(3):e12106. 5. Wilson M, et al. Pulm Circ. 2022;12(1):e12003. 6. Lombardi S, et al. Respir Med. 2018;143:139-146. 7. Kingman M, et al. Pulm Circ. 2017;7(3):598-608. 8. Brewer J, et al.. Pulm Circ. 2021;11(2):20458940211015813.

Presented by JJ Ryan at Team PHenomenal Hope; December 6, 2024; Boston, MA, US

## **Methods**

- A nine-point Likert scale (from 1 [strongly disagree] to 9 [strongly agree]) was used to rate consensus.
- Panelist characteristics:
  - Accredited PH centers 2
  - Centers of comprehensive care 4
  - Academic medical centers 2
  - Community hospital 4
  - PHA accredited regional clinical programs- 1

Modified Delphi panel process

Inclusion criteria

- United States (US)-based physicians (phys.) and advanced practice providers (APPs) who specialize in cardiology or pulmonology
- Actively managing patients with PAH

Invitation of clinical experts (n=13) to join modified Delphi panel

**Delphi panel round 1:** Online Questionnaire (n= 13: phys.: 5; APPs: 8)

Analysis of Delphi panel Round 1 results

Delphi panel round 2: Online Questionnaire (n= 13: phys.: 5; APPs: 8)

Analysis of Delphi panel Round 2 results

Delphi panel round 3: Consensus Meeting (n=7: phys.: 5; APPs: 2)\*



\*The consensus meeting was scheduled based on panelist availabilities.

PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension; PH=pulmonary hypertension; PHA=Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

Definition of clinical shared decision-making

Collaboration of the patient and healthcare providers (HCPs) during the discussion of their treatment plan so that the care plan aligns with the patient's goals, values, and preferences

Expert panelists agreed that SDM is very necessary in the management of PAH

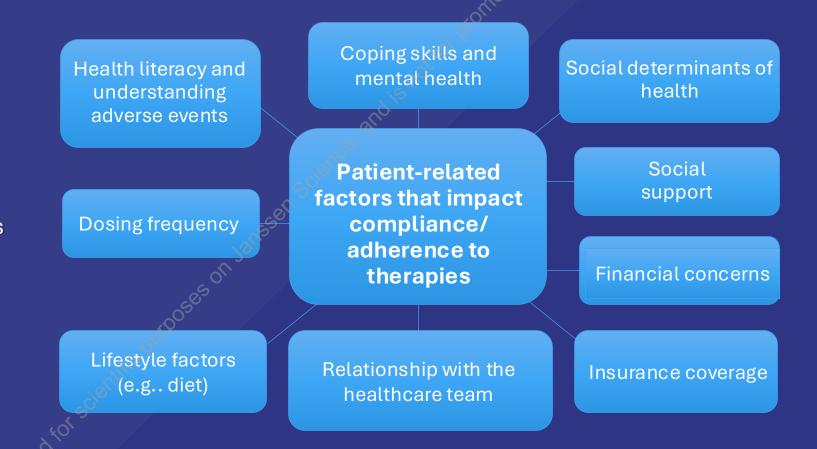


PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension.; PH=pulmonary hypertension; PHA=Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

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 Consensus was reached compliance is a useful indicator of patient engagement; however, there are acknowledged challenges

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### Factors which frustrate patients in their patient journey

Early in the PAH journey	Later in the PAH journey
Side effects of medication	Oxygen therapy
	Continued clinical decline/ lack of response to therapy
Overwhelming diagnosis	Medication adverse reactions/ side effects
	Quality of life
	Life expectancy
Throughout the PAH journey	
Financial burden and medical access challenges	
Symptom severity	



PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension.

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What defines an engaged patient and provider?

## **Engaged Patient**

Actively participates in clinical SDM by asking questions, giving feedback, and following up routinely to better understand the disease processes and management of PAH.

## **Engaged HCP**

Acts as a patient advocate, tailoring resources to individuals based on circumstance/background, and involving both the patient and multidisciplinary team in SDM.



PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension; SDM=shared decision making.

Practices to improve patient engagement in PAH management





More frequent touchpoints or longer appointment duration with patients



PHA website resources



Enable patient access to their information (lab test results; tools)



PHA=Pulmonary Hypertension Association; PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Important considerations for discussing therapy escalation

Understanding the patient's needs and goals:



Patient lifestyle



Treatment goals of the patient



Social support

Understanding the patient's financial situation:



Therapy affordability



Insurance coverage **Providing guidance to patients:** 



Ensuring comfort in using devices for therapy



Ensuring understanding of therapy options



Factors impacting successful shared decision making and/or disease management in PAH

#### Factor

- Patient values and goals are incorporated into the treatment plan
- ✓ Trust between HCP and patient
- Patient education
  - Patients feel like they have some control over the treatment plan

- Encouraging participation in research
- Discussing current therapy, recommendations, goals and values
- An experienced care team
- Providing a clear action plan

#### Panelists also felt the following were important but depend on the patient:

- Use of appropriate educational material
- Regular multi-disciplinary meetings

HCP=healthcare provider; PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension.

- Patient-to-patient (peer-to-peer)
- Patient support groups



# Conclusions

The panel agreed on the importance of SDM and patient engagement in treating patients with PAH.



An engaged patient actively participates in clinical SDM by asking questions and giving feedback.

An engaged HCP acts as a patient advocate, tailors resources to individuals and their circumstances, and involves both the

patient and the multidisciplinary team.



Practices to improve patient engagement include involving caregivers and providing health information in simple, patientfriendly language, preferably in the patient's native language.



Factors that may impact patient engagement include health literacy, social and mental health support.



The identified areas of improvement can be used to ensure more patients, and caregivers, are involved in the management of PAH to advocate for their goals and preferences.

HCP=healthcare provider; PAH=pulmonary arterial hypertension; SDM=shared decision making



## **Additional Disclosures**

- SL has served as a consultant, speaker's bureau participant, and advisory board participant for Johnson & Johnson and Bayer Corporation.
- RS has served as an advisor or consultant for United Therapeutics, Gossamer Bio, and J&J Innovative Medicine.
- MW has served as a speaker for United Therapeutics, Bayer, Janssen and consultant for Merck, Janssen, Bayer, United Therapeutics, Gossamer Bio, and Liquidia.
- MH, MC, GD, JL, and CB are employees of Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc.
- DB, MS, AE, RP, HS and LP are employees of Adelphi Values PROVE, who were contracted by J&J Innovative Medicines to conduct this research.



# Thank you!

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Presented by John W. McConnell, MD; Director, PH Comprehensive Care center, at PHenomenal Hope 2024! Knowledge, Research & Advocacy in PH; Boston, MA, USA; December 6, 2024