



News Category Menu

[Primary Care / General Practice](#)
[Categories A-B](#) >

[Categories C-D](#) >

[Categories E-G](#) >

[Categories H-L](#) >

[Categories M-O](#) >

[Categories P-R](#) >

[Categories S-Z](#) >

[View full category list](#)

Your News

[Popular News By Year](#) >

[Personalize Your Homepage](#)
[Weekly Newsletters](#)
[Daily News Alerts](#)
[Follow Us On Twitter](#)

Featured Information Hubs

[Hemophilia](#)
[Pneumococcal Disease](#)
[Other Information Hubs](#) >

[All 'What Is...' Articles](#)

Conditions Information

Other Navigation Links

[About Us](#)
[News Licensing](#)
[Free Website Feeds](#)
[Free Tools & Content](#)
[Tell a Friend](#)
[Accessibility](#)
[Help / FAQ](#)
[Article Submission](#)
[Links](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Clinical Trials

Medical News Today



Primary Care / General Practice News

[Useful Links](#)

What Influence Does The Doctor's Gender Have On Patient Expectations On Decision Making

Main Category: [Primary Care / General Practice](#)Also Included In: [Psychology / Psychiatry](#)

Article Date: 26 Feb 2011 - 0:00 PST

22

 [email to a friend](#)
 [printer friendly](#)
 [opinions](#)
 Like

2

When a general practitioner (GP, primary care physician) is female, patients want her to allow them to become involved in the management of their health problem, especially when it is a family health issue or a cold. They dearly expect their family doctor to listen to them, keep them informed, consider their opinions, much more so than participating in decision making, according to researchers from the Department of Biostatistics of the University of Granada, Spain.

The researchers had set out to find out whether patients expected their GPs to take their opinions into account when making decisions in the context of various health problems. They also assessed the influence of the gender factor for patient as well as doctor on such expectations>

360 Patients

For the purpose of this study, researchers took a sample of 360 patients aged 16-47 years assisted at the Health Care Gran Capitán in Granada. 51% were women and 49% were men.

Patient expectations towards their participation in decision making were found to vary depending on the disorder to be treated: thus, when patients suffer chest pain, 32% want to participate in the selection of the treatment and, when there is a serious family health problem the percentage raises to 49%. Women have not got so many expectations when they suffer from [depression](#) or when it is a family health problem, and patients that are assisted by a woman physician have greater expectations of participating in problem management when the case is a family health problems or [flu](#).

The participants were given a questionnaire that asked if they expected their family doctor "to listen to them, keep them informed and consider their opinions". Then, they were presented with five situations: sharp chest pain, a cold with [fever](#), abnormal discharge, depression and sadness, and a serious family health problem. They were asked to express their expectations of their involvement in decision making when consulting for the disorders detailed above.

The conclusions drawn of this study were that most patients "want to be listened, informed and considered by their family doctor" and, in a lesser degree "they want to make their own decisions, especially when consulting for biomedical problems".

Source:

 Juan de Dios Luna del Castillo
 University of Granada
Please rate this article: [Patient / Public:](#) or [Health Professional:](#)
 (Hover over the stars
 then click to rate)

Monthly Feature

The Tragedy Of The Fraudulent MMR Autism Link



A 1998 report linking the MMR vaccine with autism has been shown to be scientifically unsound. It undermined research into the causes and treatments for autism, and distressed millions of families unnecessarily for over a decade. [Read the personal story of a parent here...](#)

Follow Our News On Twitter:



Get the latest news for this category delivered straight to your Twitter account. Simply click the link below and select the 'follow' option.

- [Primary Care / General Practice](#) on Twitter
- [View a list of all our Twitter feeds](#)

Latest News For Primary Care / General Practice

[RCGP Establishes New Commission On Generalism, UK](#)
 01 Mar 2011

[Studies Find Clinicians Important Influencers To Help Overweight And Obese Patients Deal With Weight And Related Health Issues](#)
 28 Feb 2011

[The Influence Of Advertising On Drug Recommendations](#)
 28 Feb 2011

[View more news...](#)

Most Popular Articles For Primary Care