

Multimedia Appendix 5: predictor variables: Demographic variables, patient-empowerment variables and health literacy variables

Predictors	Variable choices	Condensed values
Age	Free entry	18 - 34 years
		35 - 44 years
		45 - 54 years
		55 - 64 years
		65 and older (65+)
Employment Status	Employed full of part time	Working
	Self - employed	Student
	Full time student	Not working
	Homemaker	Retired
	Disabled and not working	
	Curently unemployed, not working	
	Retired	
Family income	Under 20 000 €	<30 000 €
	20 000 - 30 000 €	30 000 - 60 000 €
	30 000 - 40 000 €	>60 000 €
	40 000 - 60 000 €	Don't know / don't wish to answer
	60 000 - 80 000 €	
	Above 80 000 €	
	Don't know	
	Don't wish to answer this question	
Health status	Excellent	Excellent
	Very good	Good/fair
	Good	Poor
	Fair	
	Poor	
Education	Primary school	Highschool or lower
	High school	Bachelor degree
	Bachelor degree	Master degree or higher
	Master degree or higher	
Gender	Male	Male
	Female	female
Shared decision making ^a	Strongly agree	Agree
	Agree	Neutral

	Neutral	Disagree
	Disagree	
	Strongly disagree	
Questioning the decisions of physicians ^a	Very important	Important
	Important	Neutral
	Not very important	Not important
	Unimportant	
	Very unimportant	
Satisfaction with healthcare last 5 years ^a	Very satisfied	Satisfied
	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral
	Neutral	Dissatisfied
	Somewhat dissatisfied	
	Very dissatisfied	
Finding relevant health information ^b	Very difficult	Difficult
	Difficult	Not easy /not difficult
	Not easy / not difficult	Easy
	Easy	
	Very easy	
Evaluating the reliability of health information ^b	Very difficult	Difficult
	Difficult	Not easy /not difficult
	Not easy / not difficult	Easy
	Easy	
	Very easy	
Problems understanding health information ^b	Always	Often
	Often	Sometimes
	Sometimes	Rarely
	Occasionally	
	Never	

a) Used as variables for patient-empowerment

b) Used as variables for health literacy