



Panel Discussion
Health Literacy & Why It Matters



Global Summit 2022, Porto, Portugal

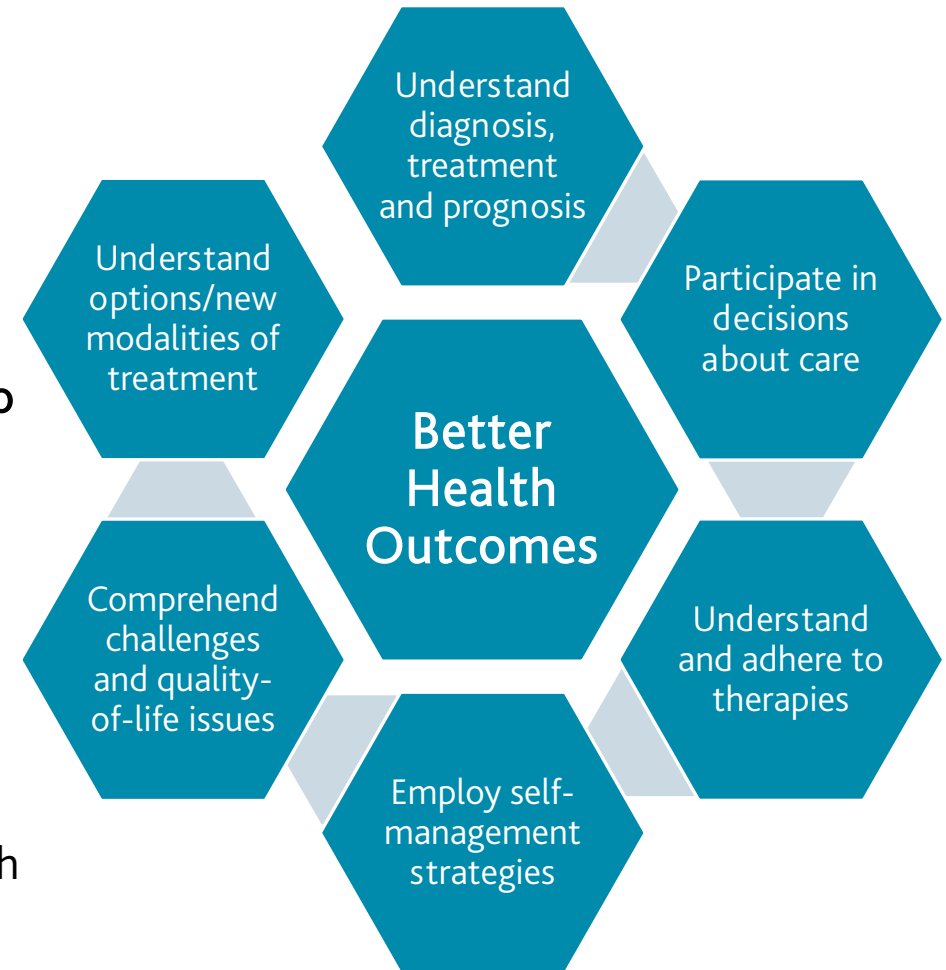
Why Health Literacy Matters

Health literacy is essential to:

- achieving **better health outcomes**
- addressing **health equity** and closing the gap in terms of disparities and barriers (to access)
- supporting **patient-centric care**
- enabling individuals to engage in **shared-decision making**, **adhere to medication regimes**, and **better manage self-care**.

With health care systems increasing complex to navigate, **digital technologies are transforming health literacy**, bringing both advancements and challenges for patients.

Health literacy **policies and best practices** are critical to achieving health equity.



Meeting Objectives:

- Explore the implications associated with understanding health information.
- Discuss culturally appropriate resources and informational needs in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Propose practical actions and solutions to address health literacy issues, challenges, and barriers.



Health Literacy Community Advisory Board (APAC)

Key Learnings

1. Patient reported concerns that information is too technical and likely to contribute to a lack of understanding.
2. Resources may only be available in select languages for patients.
3. Challenges persist with respect to language barriers and cultural differences.
4. As patients may move rapidly from initial diagnosis to prescription, there may be hesitancy to ask questions of doctors.
5. Barriers to accessing digital information include connectivity issues and the ability to use devices.
6. Urban, rural and remote issues include differing trust levels, levels of education and an inclination toward the use of alternative medicines for treatment.

Health Literacy: Addressing Disparities in Lymphoma Care



Member Engagement

- Convened a Health Literacy Community Advisory Board Meeting (Asia-Pacific)
- Produced a meeting report and provided Members in the region with considerations for action
- Based strategic actions and activities on key insights from patient experts



Policy Development

- Currently producing a revised White Paper on Health Literacy in the region of Asia-Pacific
 - Aims to identify advocacy and policy priorities in health literacy (10 countries)
 - Advocacy resource for Members to use to advance health literacy strategies



Global Action

- Applying key learnings, insights from patient experts, and data (resulting from the GPS) to address health literacy at global policy and health systems levels.
 - Aims to leverage evidence and data to understand the global state of health literacy and accelerate collaborative actions