

Perception of psychosocial and contextual challenges influencing engagement in diabetic foot care

A qualitative study of podiatrists' perspectives

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Conclusion

Podiatrists perceive these challenges as complex and embedded within patients' contexts. These findings highlight the need for **tailored, patient-centered** approaches that address not only knowledge deficits but also **psychosocial and contextual barriers** to engagement.

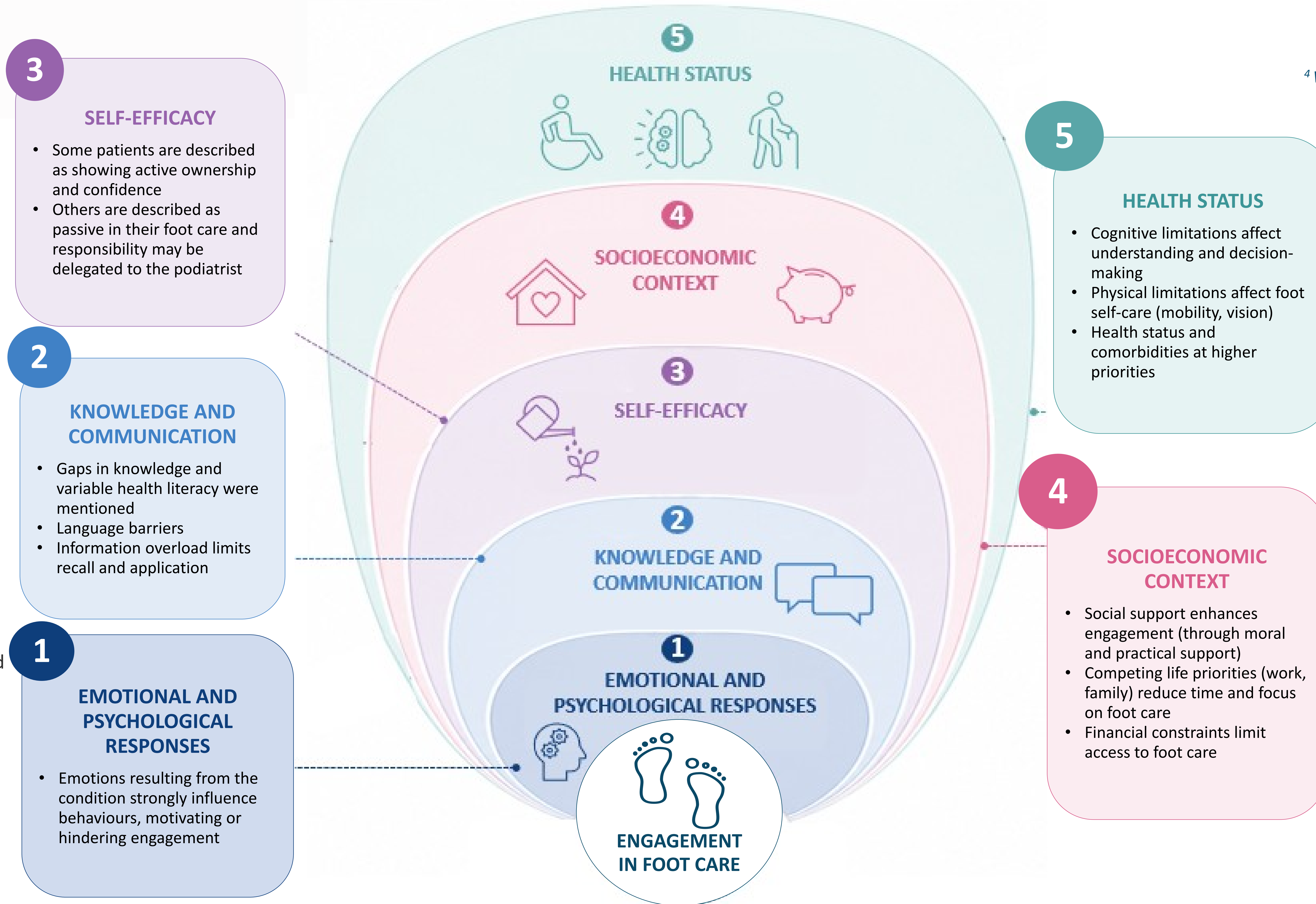
What's next?

A tool to support podiatrists with these challenges.



Funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network Grant No 101073533 (DIALECT)

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Introduction

Effective diabetic foot care requires sustained patient engagement, yet psychosocial and contextual factors may influence patients' ability to engage. Podiatrists frequently encounter these challenges in clinical practice, but their perspectives remain underrepresented in the literature.

Aim

To explore how podiatrists perceive the psychosocial and contextual challenges faced by patients at medium to high risk of diabetic foot ulceration in relation to engagement in foot care.

Methods



15 podiatrists

Certified, working with people at risk of diabetic foot ulceration (public or private, all levels of healthcare services)



4 European countries

Denmark, The Netherlands, the UK, Ireland



Interviews

Semi-structured, individual



Thematic analysis

Results

Five interrelated themes shape engagement in diabetic foot care.