

Establishing the Validity of Surveys to Assess a Novel Pathology-Patient Education Tool: Understanding a Breast Pathology Report

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DISCLOSURES: Ron Balassanian, MD- consultant Genentech Corp. Genentech produced and developed the video series.

Background

- Pathology reports can cause confusion and anxiety for patients as the report is written for medical providers and often contains technical language.
- We produced a series of 5 videos in collaboration with patient advocates and with support from Genentech, to educate patients about how to read a breast pathology report.

Understanding a Breast Pathology Report Video Series topics:

1. Pathology report overview
2. Tissue collection and gross description
3. Microscopy
4. Special testing
5. Understanding the diagnosis

Aims

- Aim 1: To validate pre and post-test surveys to assess the effectiveness of the patient education video series.
- Aim 2: Use an inter-professional team approach to provide validity evidence aimed at our target population.

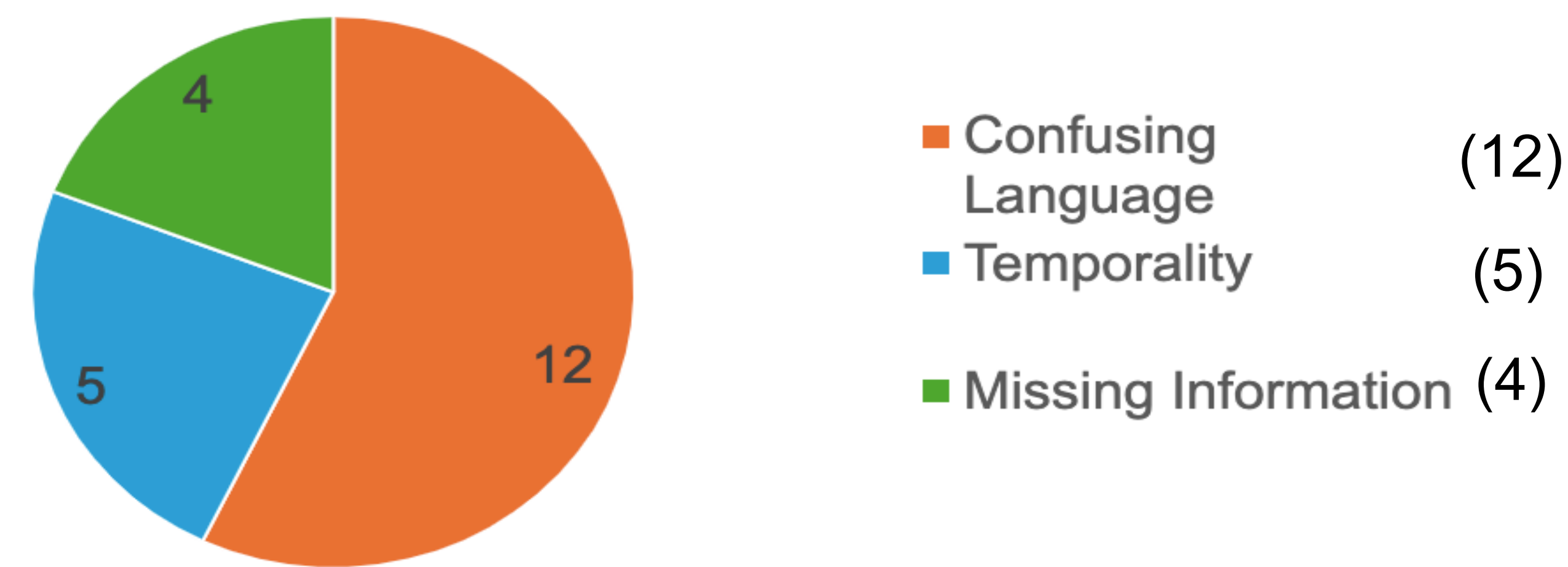
Design

Validation of Survey Instrument

- An inter-professional team composed of pathologists, patient advocates, and medical students was created to develop the surveys.
- The survey was developed using the Qualtrics platform.
- The pre-test survey consisted of 16 questions aimed at background, demographics, and baseline understanding of pathology reporting.
- The post-test survey consisted of 13 questions to assess changes after watching the videos.
- The surveys were piloted in a think-aloud format on Zoom with 6 participants from the target population: patients with a breast pathology report.
- Qualitative responses were analyzed to refine the survey questions.

Results

Figure 1. Distribution of Survey Changes by Domain



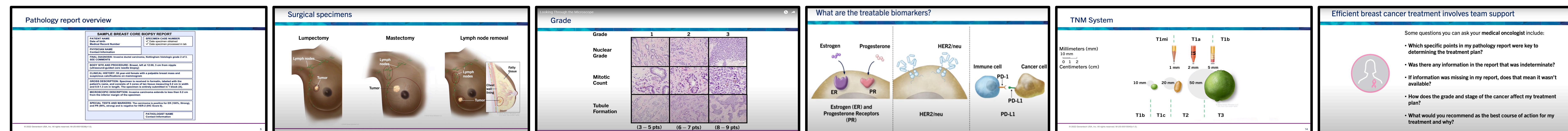
QR code to watch the
Understanding a
Breast Pathology
Report Video series

Table 1. Survey Questions with Significant Revisions

Domain	Survey Questions
Confusing language: Unclear answer choices or questions	Original Do you feel satisfied with the amount of information you received? Revised Do you feel like the information you received was too much, not enough, or just right?
Temporality: Time point on the diagnostic journey	Original Do you have a breast pathology report? Revised Have you read your breast pathology reports?
Missing information: Questions that lacked necessary context or details	Original If yes, what resources did you use to understand your pathology report? Answer choices were revised to be more inclusive.



Figure 2. *Understanding a Breast Pathology Report* selected screen shots



Results

- Feedback obtained from the survey generated data in 3 domains: temporality, confusing language, and missing information.
- Based on participant feedback, we made changes to 6 questions, 15 answer choices, and the consent form.

Conclusions

- Pilot testing using the think aloud format helped refine the survey questions.
- Focusing on participants from the target audience provided survey validity evidence.
- Leveraging the expertise of patients with lived experience can help pathologists improve patient education.

Next Steps

Step 1

- Partner w/ local Bay Area community organizations focused on eliminating health disparities to disseminate the survey.

Step 2

- Use data from surveys to:
- Continue to refine the videos and make them more effective
- Improve video series

Step 3

- Evaluate the effectiveness of patient education videos to reduce healthcare disparities.

Disclosures

- Understanding a Breast Pathology Report* video series was produced with funds through a grant from Genentech.
- Ron Balassanian, MD was a paid consultant under the grant.