

Patient and caregiver voices in bladder cancer

Interviews included...
N=12

9 patients

3 caregivers

USA

Germany
Italy

Experience at diagnosis

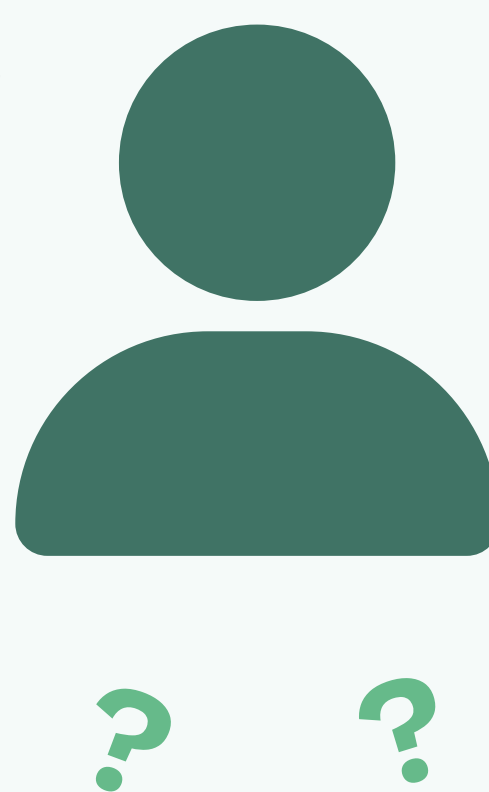
38% of patients were initially **misdiagnosed** or assumed to have **another condition**

In the USA, diagnoses were often abrupt vs a more empathetic approach in Germany and Italy



56% of patients didn't fully understand their diagnosis or the meaning of 'high-risk'

The doctor told him, 'Hey buddy, you've got cancer' – that was the extent of the explanation.



Emotional and psychological impact

38% of German and Italian patients or caregivers **needed psychological or psychiatric help**

What's the next surprise? Has it [cancer] come back or has it gone?

Fear of recurrence was a **major concern**

83% of patients or caregivers felt fear, shock, or emotional distress at diagnosis

33% of patients had anxiety and poor sleep

He is always worried about it

Treatment experience

All 3 countries had gaps in **information and holistic guidance**

56% of patients underwent **BCG therapy**

Pain and bleeding were reported side effects of BCG therapy

Other treatments included:

- Intravesical chemotherapy
- Systemic agents (e.g., gemcitabine)

All patients underwent **regular cystoscopy** surveillance

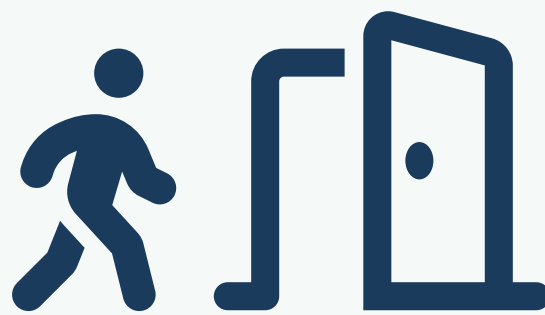
I can't sleep before my appointments

In the US, no one seems to advocate for patients

German and Italian patients had **high trust in HCPs** vs those in the USA

Daily life impact

44% of patients had **career disruptions**



One US patient **retired early** partly due to health issues



German patients were **more proactive, making self-initiated lifestyle changes** vs patients from Italy and the USA

Caregiver challenges

Caregivers highlighted a need for **structured education on how to care for patients**



The psychiatric treatment helped a lot



3 caregivers played key roles in **care coordination**