

A photograph of a woman lying in a hospital bed, wearing a blue hospital gown and glasses. A blue blood pressure cuff is wrapped around her right arm. The background is a blurred hospital room with medical equipment. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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Doing rope-ladder or buttonhole? That's the question!

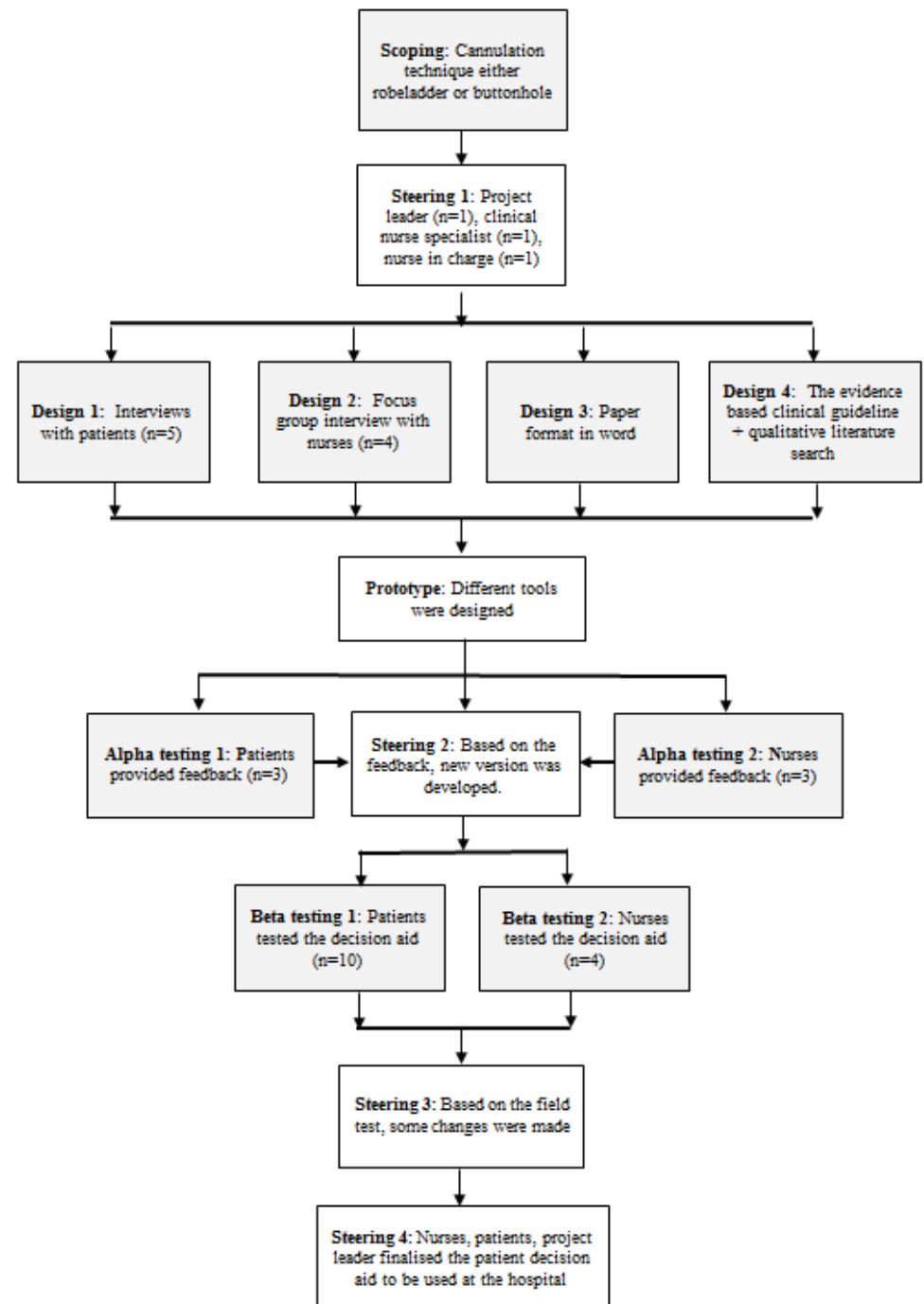
Background

- 100 patients in haemodialysis in our unit and 85% have an A/V fistula
- Two options:
 - The rope-ladder technique using sharp needles
 - The buttonhole technique using blunt needles
- The assessment and decision about the choice of cannulation technique for our patients used to be made mainly by the nurses

Aim

- Based on an evidence-based guideline, we have developed a patient decision aid to involve patients in choice of cannulation technique
- The decision aid is developed in accordance with the International Patient Decision Aid Standards (IPDAS)

Method



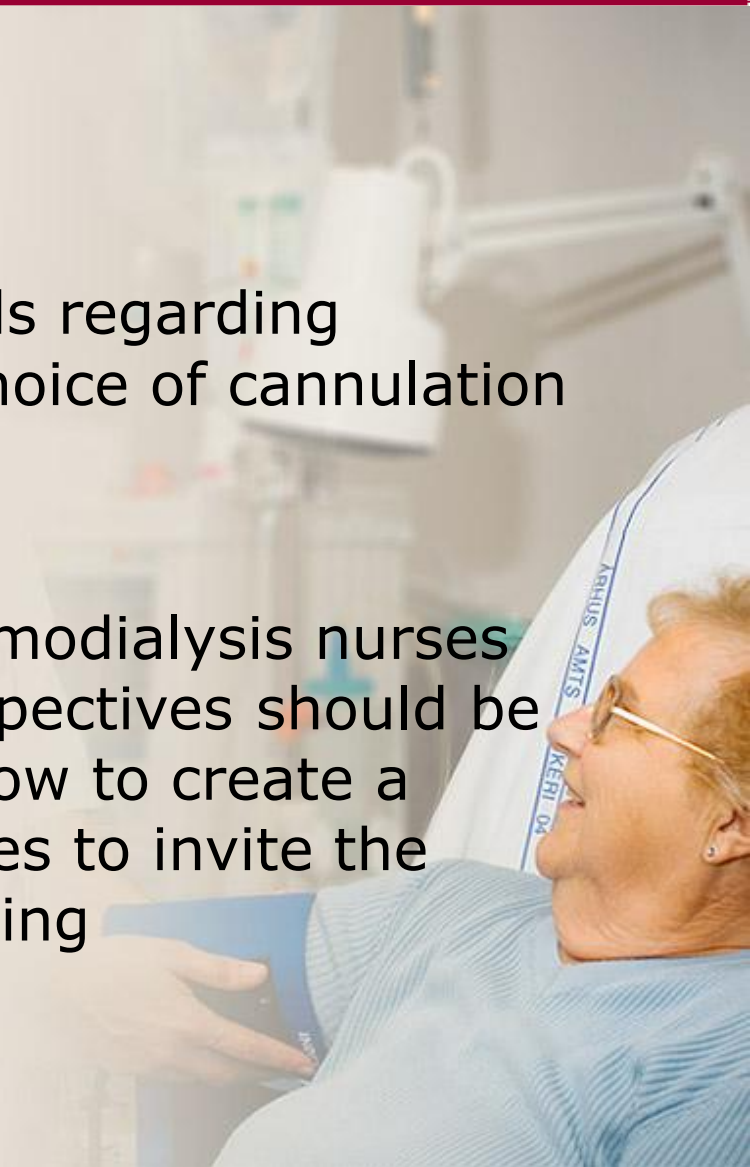
A patient in a hospital bed, wearing a blue hospital gown and glasses, is looking towards the right. The background shows medical equipment and a hospital room setting. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Method

- A steering committee consisting of a project manager, a clinical nurse specialist and a staff nurse in the haemodialysis unit was established
- Leadership support and involvement is very important both in the preparation of the project and later when the project is to be implemented
- It is also important that both patients and healthcare professionals are involved in the process

Method

- Step 1 was to cover patients' needs regarding involvement in and dialogue on choice of cannulation technique
- Step 2 was to cover needs of haemodialysis nurses assessing which professional perspectives should be included in the decision aid and how to create a framework to encourage the nurses to invite the patients into shared decision-making



Method

- It is important to test among people directly involved in the development process
- The first version of a decision aid was developed and patients and nurses gave feedback and the first version was adapted
- The second version was tested by patients and nurses. Here it was a field test with patients and nurses not involved in the development process

Results

Frequently asked questions?	Rope-ladder technique	Buttonhole technique
Is there a risk for blue marks on my arm?	Bruising may occur if the needle is not located correctly in the blood vessel vein?	Since it is not a sharp needle there is no risk of bruising
Will I have bumps on my arm?	There may be enlargement of the blood vessels but the technique should reduce the formation on bumps	Low risk of bumps, because we use the same duct every time
Will the needling technique have influence on my AV-fistula?	No	No

Conclusion

- All patients with an A/V-fistula will be offered a meeting with a dialysis nurse about deciding the cannulation technique. In advance the decision aid is delivered to the patient in order to prepare him for the meeting
- The patient decision aid is now ready for implementation and evaluation in a larger scale

Thank you for your attention

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