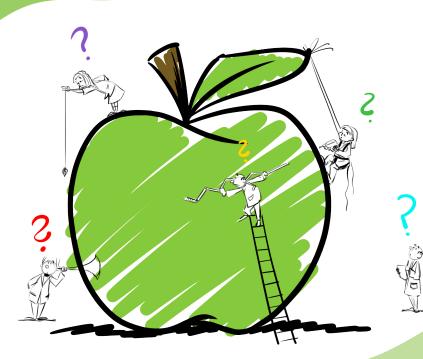


BRIDGING THE GAP

RESEARCH TOGETHER IN THE JUNIOR RESEARCH ACADEMY



Financed by:



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Foreword

Hello!

My name is Claire and I have a request. I would like people to have a better understanding of what it is like to bite into a sour apple. Now many readers are probably wondering: What is she getting at?

Well, the apple is my metaphor for cancer. I've survived it. And my path to recovery has made me a real expert: I know all about my particular sour apple. Especially how it tastes.

This probably sounds familiar to some of you: If you are a patient or a patient's family member and you are participating in this workshop, you have probably taken a bite out of your own sour apple.

This leads me to the **vision** that my research team and I have:

To engage the public and patients in research. And to improve it by asking specific research questions, so that those people are the focus - the public and patients like me. What does this have to do with the apple? Well, there are methods to measure, analyze and treat an apple. And there are experts who work on it with a lot of **know-how and enthusiasm**. Some people have already guessed: Researchers - for example, from the fields of medicine, psychology, nursing, social work and many other fields.

Every apple

tastes

different!

Now we get to the heart of the matter (and the purpose of this document): In order to develop **effective diagnostic methods and therapies**, we not only need to take measurements, analytics and treatment into consideration, but also the experience that patients bring with them. Because only they can really describe how the apple tastes. It is therefore a matter of involving patients in research, right from the start. This is also the focus of the **workshop** to which you were invited to. It serves as a tool that enables patients and research groups to work together on jointly developed **research questions with a high degree of relevance**. Scientific questions that include us patients and our relatives from the very beginning and take our experiences and needs seriously. And based on these, creating **project plans** to implement the research together.

This applies to all areas in which research is happening! Like a jigsaw puzzle, we have to take all the experiences relating to the body, the mind and the social sphere into account in equal measure in order to obtain an integrated picture at the end and to meet all the needs. A holistic, interdisciplinary approach according to the biopsychosocial model is therefore necessary - also in the selection of experts.



Foreword

You received this document in preparation for the workshop. It contains the following information:

- What is **Patient & Public Involvement and Engagement** (PPIE)?
- The workshop "game rules"
- Expandable **PPIE dictionary** for the workshop
- A space for notes and thoughts



A basic requirement for working together well is that all participants, despite their diverse backgrounds, are able to participate on an **equal** footing. This is the only way to achieve the goal: Bridging the Gap! In other words, **building a bridge** between patients and researchers. Because we are all working towards the same goal: We want to understand the apple in all its facets. We also want to know how it tastes. We all want to **improve research and care**.

Enjoy the workshop!

Claire, Patient Expert



Why Patient and Public Involvement & Engagement (PPIE)?

Research without patients can be compared to a jigsaw puzzle in which one piece is missing. You can view and analyze many individual pieces, but without the missing piece, the overall picture remains incomplete - there is no certainty that all the connections have been understood. It is therefore an encouraging improvement that the **involvement of patients** in clinical research is gaining in importance.



If you're wondering about the meaning of some terms you are unsure of, go to your PPIE dictionary on page 7.

Those directly affected bring the value of lived experience with treatment methods and their side effects. Or, to stick with the metaphor of the apple: They don't just know what the apple looks like, but also what it tastes like. For too long this knowledge has been barely taken into consideration in practice, which not only leads to frustration, but also diminishes the **validity of studies**. And with it the quality of the treatment approaches being researched.

The answer to this discrepancy is called "**Patient and Public Involvement & Engagement**", short PPIE. Sounds bulky, but it's a minor revolution: it means that research and development in the health care sector are carried out together WITH or even BY patients and representatives of the public, not ABOUT or FOR them. PPIE stands for a voice and active participation in research and development.

- PPIE goes beyond the most common forms of participation to date, which are mainly based on questionnaires, focus groups and interviews.
- In PPIE, patients are directly and actively involved in research processes from the very beginning: From phrasing the research question, to applying for funding, to to the collecting and analyzing of the data gathered
- Thanks to the expanded, multidisciplinary approach, the research and the projects developed benefit from better research quality
- They are more effective overall because the needs of patients and their valuable experiences are taken into account right from the start

In other words, for research groups, serious patient involvement is the order of the day. This document is a **practical guide** to that. To ensure that all the pieces of the puzzle come together to form an accurate overview.

In my video I tell you even more about PPIE!



How do We Want to Work Together?

You now know the goal of this workshop. Then let's briefly consider how we work together, so that everyone can have fun and contribute optimally.



At eye level: Use technical terms consciously and explain them. The glossary, which you can add terms to yourself, is useful here (next page).

First names first: addressing people by their first names is a good way to work together. This loosens the atmosphere and you can more easily find common ideas and work creatively.

10 Commandments for Good Cooperation

- **1.** "Engage with each other." Let each other finish every voice should be heard.
- 2. "Treat each other with respect." Respect each other and value the knowledge each one brings to the table and their achievements.
- **3.** "Use solution-oriented language." Avoids killer phrases. Instead of "It won't work anyway," use "Let's try!"
- **4. "Be constructive**." Offer alternatives to any criticism.
- **5.** "**Replace ,but' with ,and**.'" "A ,but' has a more negative effect in communication than an ,and'; it changes the mood of the room!"
- **6.** "**Take responsibility**." Agree to share responsibility for the success of the workshop.
- 7. "Stay in the here and now." Turn off "distractors" such as smartphones and pagers on silent.
- 8. "Work with an open mind." PPIE means having the courage to think openly, to enable solutions outside of familiar conventions.
- **9.** "View diverse perspectives as an opportunity." The workshop is an "open space" for exchange take advantage of this opportunity, talk to each other, exchange your perspectives and show willingness to dive into each other's worlds.
- **10.** "**Be confident**." The workshop, of course, means time and work. But the PPIE process is a real win for everyone involved.

You feel there is a rule missing? Share your thought with the group!



Psst, there is one more. Rule #11: Have fun!





Space for your name:

PPIE Dictionary 01

Specific fields need specific terms. And they are usually quickly explained - even when it comes to diagnostics, treatment and research of an oncological disease. So to make sure we all speak the same language in the workshop, we have prepared a glossary. The special feature: You can expand it yourself.

This is how we deal with it in the workshop: If a technical term occurs, the person who uses it should also explain it. In addition, one participant will make sure that this actually happens, (we will determine who will take on this role together on site). We will document the given explanation, furthermore you can enter it in this **personal glossary.**

MY PPIE DICTIONARY

PPIE: Stands for Patient and Public Involvement & Engagement. It sounds bulky, but it is a small revolution: This approach means that research and development in the health sector should be carried out **WITH or even BY** patients and representatives of the public, not ABOUT or FOR them. PPIE stands for a democratization of research and development.

Participation: An essential first step when it comes to patient involvement. It is a **partial participation** of patients in studies through questionnaires, interviews, focus groups, etc.

Engagement: This refers on the one hand to **raising awareness** about a topic, such as spreading information about research via (social) media, science festivals, workshops or open house days. On the other hand, it also means the active participation of patients in the research process by taking on tasks.

Involvement: The real thing! This refers to the active, full involvement of patients in research projects. **What's meant** here is the joint identification of research topics, phrasing of research questions, submission of proposals. Patients are members of steering committees, help in the development of information materials, in conducting interviews, etc.

Patient Advocates: These are individuals - often former patients - who serve as **advocates** for the interests of patients - towards institutions, healthcare professionals, the pharmaceutical industry, politicians, in various committees as well as in public.

PPIE Dictionary 02

Patient Organisation Representatives: Representatives of organizations that advocate on behalf of patients. They represent the views of their respective patient organization.

Patient Experts: The name says it all: These patients are real experts! They are people who on the one hand have valuable experience as patients. On the other hand, they have specialist expertise in one or more areas through appropriate further training. This enables them to actively participate in research & development, health policy, etc.

Individual Patient: Refers to the individual patient. Those, who had to take a bite from the sour apple, have also gained a lot of experience. For many areas of research, this knowledge is a valuable contribution.

Carers (or Caretakers): This term stands for all persons who are close to the/a patient and accompany them on their treatment path: Relatives, friends, trusted persons.

Further terms can be added at will!

Caution! Now the content of the workshop starts. What type are you?

The information-seeking typ: Already looking at the upcoming pages, or the adventurer: Looking forward to the surprise and only starts reading the upcoming pages during the respective session.



PPIE Dictionary 03

Further terms can be added at will!

Remember to bring your Lab-Book to the workshop



SPACE FOR THOUGHTS

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Workshop Title:

Exchange your contact details to stay in touch

Feel free to write down, what roles

Meeting Point (adress/institution):

Which role are you and your team members taking on?



Timekeeper – makes sure that the time frame is not exceeded.



Photographer – takes pictures of the results and the group and sends them to the co-moderationteam afterwards.



Walking dictionary – notes technical terms and explanations on a chart. Reminds the group to explain technical terms if they forget.



But-Guard – intervenes when someone says "but" in a discussion and turns this into an "and".

Charger – pays attention to the energy level in the room and calls for breaks if it is too low.

The Moderating Team and its Supporters

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My Team 02

Exchange your contact details to stay in touch.



Workshop Participants:

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My Team 03

Exchange your contact details to stay in touch.



Workshop Participants:

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SPACE FOR THOUGHTS



Avatar Worksheet

BUILD YOUR AVATAR

1. Build

Space for your avatar

2. Describe

1. What are your strengths?

2. What expertise do you bring to the table?

3. What special qualities do you have?

4. What 5 important milestones have you achieved/experienced so far?



SPACE FOR THOUGHTS

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| This is our goal: | |

This is the research project we are pursuing:

These are the strengths and expert knowledge we bring to the table:

SPACE FOR THOUGHTS

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The Miracle Question

Imagine, you're waking up and the problem

is solved.

| How w | ould you | notice | that this | miracle | has | happened? |
|-------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|-----|-----------|
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Which problems/difficulties would be solved through your research project?

Who else would recognize this miracle and that your problem no longer exists?

SPACE FOR THOUGHTS



Invention Worksheet

BUILD YOUR INVENTION

1. Build

Space for your invention

2. Describe

1. Which problem does your invention solve?

2. Which features does your invention have?

3. What's your invention's name?

SPACE FOR THOUGHTS

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How Does Research Actually Work?

Starting Point, Idea, Goal

What problems are being What shortcomings exist? What questions arise? What is necessary in order



2. Literature Research, Collaborations

What do we already know? Who are the experts?

3. **Scientific Research Questions, Forming Hypothesis**

Which question can be precisely investigated?



5. **Planning the Study**

Who can participate/who cannot? How many people should participate? When/Where/How long should be examined? What is reasonable? What methods are to be used? what is the research project's time frame? Are they fair/repeatable? Are they really measuring, what they claim to measure? Are there confounding factors? Is there a control group? Is there an external control authority (ethics committee)?

7.

Operationalization

How do I pose my research question to have measurable



6. **Data Collection**

What tools are being used? Are there standards or norms?

Data Analysis and

Interpretation

Is the data protected (no personal

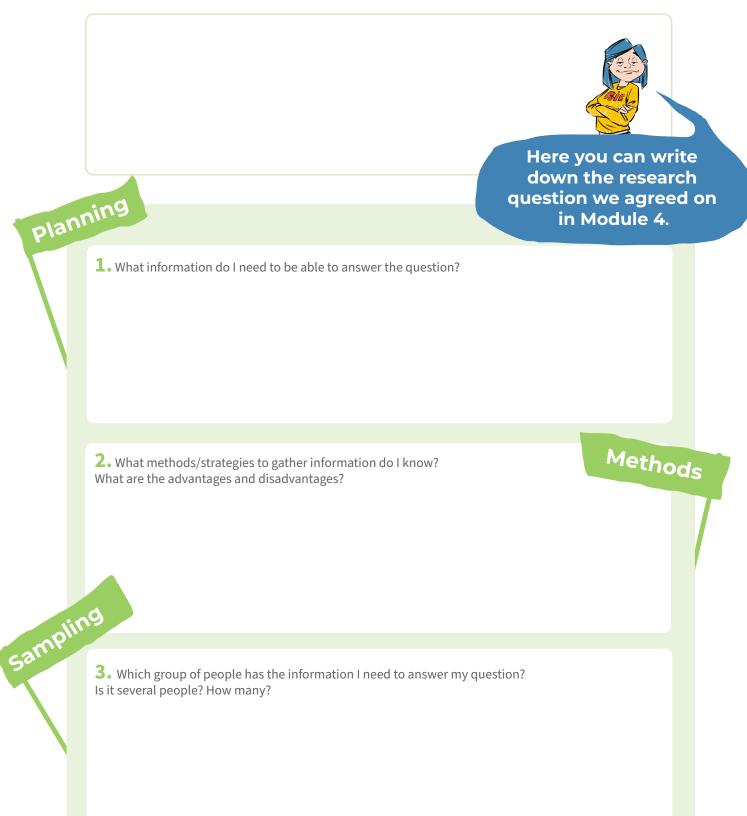
Publication. Dissemination, Implementation, Implementation

SPACE FOR THOUGHTS

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The Study Design Guide 01

We have the research question and creative approaches for solutions. Now we are going to create a **study design**. Now try to answer each question. Note any unclear points.



Collection

The Study Design Guide 02

4. When is the right time to gather this information? Should it be gathered once or more often? Should I collect data/information for a longer period of time?

5. What questions/points are still unclear after taking point 1-4 in consideration? Who do I need to ask/include/talk to/.. to answer my questions? What risks are there?

Space for Notes Open questions

Here's How We Continue

In our joint workshop, we have gathered **valuable knowledge** and developed great content together. As a team, we are already making an **important contribution to PPIE.**

I'm interested now though:

What do you wish for regarding the further course of this project?





Here you can ask how the project will continue and whether you will be informed automatically about the further course of the project.



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NOTES



I take notes on this method:

Imprint

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Project Team: Living PPIE means thinking in an interdisciplinary and holistic way. In order to bring in a variety of perspectives, the project team was deliberately composed of people with diverse expertise, each of whom made their contributions at different stages of the project.

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And many more Individual Patients & Carers.