

**Title: PYDESALUD: A WEB PLATFORM TO PROMOTE PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.**

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**Abstract**

The National Health System in Spain is starting to promote shared decision-making between patients and healthcare professionals. For this reason, the Evaluation Unit of the Canary Islands Health Service (SESCS), The Canary Island Foundation for Research and Health (FUNCIS), the CIBER of Epidemiology and Public Health (CIBERESP), and La Laguna University (ULL) are all working together to develop initiatives to promote patients' participation in the decision-making process in relation to their health, thereby facilitating the creation of a new digital public platform (PyDEsalud) of value to Spain and Latin America.

PyDEsalud is an integrated platform of health related informational services on common chronic diseases to empower interested Spanish speaker people, that aims to identify the issues and problems that concern to people with different health conditions; this brings relevant information to patients and their families, which is culturally appropriate and complete on those aspects most important to them.

PyDEsalud is split into three different modules:

- Patient experiences: From qualitative research methods (in-depth interviews filmed in a large number of patients with chronic diseases distributed throughout all regions of Spain).
- Decision aids to promote shared decision-making: Using a mixed research methodological approach (qualitative and quantitative), patients receive information about the most important aspects related to their health problem, the treatment options and the most likely expected outcomes.
- Research needs and priorities from the patient point of view: Patient consultations (Delphi technique), distributed by e-mail, to identify the most relevant information needs for patients.

With information based on the best scientific evidence, PyDEsalud has major potential as a valid source of information for patients and their families, in addition to lifelong education for professionals (in primary and specialized care), as this can provide patient-centred information, aimed at professionals, researchers, managers and anyone who works in health departments.