Management of Comorbid Cancer and Heart Disease and Challenges in Medical Decision-Making

What matters most

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Disclosures

- None
What matters most

A cockerel, seeking food, and digging in a dung heap, finds a gemstone; he recognizes the worth (value) it has for others, but rejects it as being of NO PRACTICAL USE to himself. Says the cockerel to the gemstone, "Ho!, a fine thing you are, no doubt, and, had your owner found you, great would have been his joy. But for me, give me a single grain of corn before all the jewels in the world."

Aesop's Fables (1912): "The Cock and the Gem"
Life to me is defined by uncertainty. Uncertainty is the state in which we live, and there is no way to outfox it. 

Our great struggle in medicine these days is not just with ignorance and uncertainty. It's also with complexity: how much you have to make sure you have in your head and think about. There are a thousand ways things can go wrong. 
First Do No Harm
Newer Approaches

- Molecularly Targeted Therapy
- Precision Medicine
- Personalized Medicine
- Immunotherapy
- Undertreatment vs overtreatment
Patient Preferences

- **Merriam-Webster:**
  - 1a : the act of **preferring**
  - b : the power or opportunity of choosing

- **Cambridge Dictionary:**
  - the fact that **you like something** or someone **more than another thing** or person:
  - If you **choose** one thing in preference to another thing, you **choose** it because you like or **want** it more than the other thing:

- Thesaurus suggests antonyms for a meaning of Preference as first choice
• Shared Decision Making

• and

• Coordination of Care
Getting the Doctor to Listen
“The problem with communication is the illusion that it has occurred”

George Bernard Shaw

As quoted in Leadership Skills for Managers (2000) by Marlene Caroselli
Editor's Note:

What does the cancer patient know that the oncologist cannot? The patient, unlike the oncologist, knows first-hand the life-changing effects — and indignities — of having cancer, unless the oncologist is also a cancer survivor. Lidia Schapira, MD, assistant professor at Harvard Medical School, discussed with Laura Liberman, MD, how the experience of cancer altered her practice of medicine.

Dr Liberman is professor of radiology and director of the Office of Faculty Development at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and a survivor of lymphoma. She authored, “I Signed as the Doctor: Memoir of a Cancer Doctor Surviving Cancer.” BookLocker.com, Inc; 2009
THANK YOU