Appendix 1: Individual characteristics of patients and relatives

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N° | Location of tumour | Relationship to relative | Patient gender | Relative  gender | Patient  age | Relative  age | Patient  diploma \* | Relative  diploma \* |
| 1 | colon | Wife | M | F | 68 | 64 | CEP | CEP |
| 2 | breast | Husband | F | M | 60 | 65 | BAC +2 | Bac + 3/4 |
| 3 | uterus | Husband | F | M | 71 | 79 | none | none |
| 4 | rectum | Wife | M | F | 65 | 59 | CAP/BEP | Brevet |
| 5 | pancreas (neuroendocrine tumour, + hepatic, bone and peritoneal metastases) | Wife | M | F | 60 | 47 | CAP/BEP | CAP/BEP |
| 6 | colon | Husband | F | M | 73 | 76 | CEP | CAP/BEP |
| 7 | kidney | Husband | F | M | 69 | 75 | BAC | CEP |
| 8 | kidney | Wife | M | F | 63 | 60 | CAP/BEP | BAC |
| 9 | gynecological | Son | F | M | 76 | 51 | Bac +3/4 | Bac +5 |
| 10 | colon | Wife | M | F | 72 | 68 | Bac +2 | Bac +2 |
| 11 | pancreas | Wife | M | F | 73 | 69 | Bac +5 | BAC |
| 12 | pancreas | Husband | F | M | 76 | 82 | Brevet | Bac + 3/4 |
| 13 | colon | Wife | M | F | 71 | 62 | CEP | none |
| 14 | colon | Wife | M | F | 74 | 73 | none | CEP |
| 15 | œsophagus | Wife | M | F | 82 | 79 | CAP/BEP | CEP |
| 16 | pancreas | Wife | M | F | 70 | 68 | CAP/BEP | CAP/BEP |
| 17 | bile ducts | Wife | M | F | 82 | 68 | CEP | CAP/BEP |
| 18 | ovary | Husband | F | M | 69 | 69 | CEP | none |
| 19 | ovary | Husband | F | M | 54 | 61 | CAP/BEP | BAC |
| 20 | breast | Husband | F | M | 61 | 63 | CAP/BEP | Bac +2 |
| 21 | breast | Husband | F | M | 46 | 62 | CAP/BEP | Bac +2 |
| 22 | colon | Daughter | F | F | 56 | 30 | NR | Bac +2 |
| 23 | rectum | Daughter | F | F | 69 | 48 | BAC | Bac +2 |
| 24 | lung (small diffuse cells) | Wife | M | F | 62 | 65 | NR | CEP |
| 25 | lung | Wife | M | F | 71 | 70 | CAP/BEP | BAC |
| 26 | pancreas | Wife | M | F | 66 | 66 | Bac +3/4 | Bac +3/4 |
| 27 | ENT | Son | M | M | 87 | NR | none | CAP/BEP |
| 28 | ENT | Wife | M | F | 74 | 66 | CEP | CAP/BEP |
| 29 | uterine cervix | Husband | F | M | 55 | 60 | CAP/BEP | CAP/BEP |
| 30 | breast | Husband | F | M | 56 | NR | Brevet | CAP/BEP |
| 31 | colon | Wife | M | F | 80 | 68 | none | none |
| 32 | breast | Husband | F | M | 66 | 63 | Bac +2 | CAP/BEP |
| 33 | breast | Husband | F | M | 72 | 69 | CEP | CAP/BEP |
| 34 | rectum | Son | F | M | 79 | 61 | none | CAP/BEP |
| 34 | colon | Husband | F | M | 63 | NR | CAP/BEP | Brevet |
| 36 | colon | Husband | F | M | 77 | 79 | NR | CAP/BEP |
| 37 | œsophagus | Husband | F | M | 74 | 79 | none | none |
| 38 | rectum | Husband | F | M | 67 | 67 | CAP/BEP | CAP/BEP |
| 39 | endometrium | Daughter | F | F | 80 | 50 | none | CAP/BEP |
| 40 | breast | Husband | F | M | 66 | 63 | CAP/BEP | Brevet |
| 41 | breast | Husband | F | M | 67 | 35 | BAC | BAC |
| 42 | breast | Grand  daughter | F | F | 72 | 25 | CAP/BEP | BAC |
| 43 | colon (nodal and peritoneal metastatic gastric carcinoma) | Wife | M | F | 69 | 68 | CEP | CAP/BEP |
| 44 | breast (relapsed bone, liver) and rectum (localized) | Son | F | M | 85 | 56 | none | CAP/BEP |
| 45 | breast (operated, in metachronous metastatic relapse) | Daughter | F | F | 67 | 42 | none | CAP/BEP |
| 46 | kidney | Wife | M | F | 72 | 69 | CAP/BEP | CEP |
| 47 | breast | Husband | F | M | 59 | NR | BAC | BAC |

\*CEP = Primary school certificate (no longer in existence) (level VI and Vbis); BEP = Vocational qualification - upper grade- from 14-15 yrs to adulthood (level V); CAP= Vocational qualification - lower grade - from 14-15 yrs to adulthood (level V); Brevet = general diploma obtained at the end of lower secondary school (14-15 yrs) (level V); Bac = end of upper secondary school diploma (level IV); Bac+2 (level III); Bac+3/Bac+4 (level II); Bac+5 and above (level I)

Appendix 2: Themes broached in the questionnaires designed for each protagonist

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Patient | Relative | Oncologist |
| Socio-demographic characteristics | Socio-demographic characteristics | Socio-demographic characteristics and characteristics of the illness |
|  |  | The consultation  Its purpose, its characteristics  What words did he/she use?  What words did he/she choose to avoid?  What were the information domains broached by the patient and by the relative?  Did the oncologist provide full information? |
| Was the presence of the relative helpful in the course of the consultation? | Is it a good thing to give the patient as much information as possible? |  |
| Did he/she understand the words used by the oncologist, which words did he/she take in and which words did he/she not understand? | Did he/she understand the words used by the oncologist, and which words did he/she take in? | According to the oncologist, did the patient and the relative understand the information provided? |
| How does he/she view the seriousness of the illness ? | How does he/she view the patient's state of health? | According to the oncologist, what perception of the seriousness of the illness do the patient and the relative have? |
| How did he/she react to the oncologists explanations?  Serene?  Confident? | How did the patient react to the oncologist's explanations?  Worried?  Confident? |  |
| Was the oncologist ready to listen to the relative? | Did the oncologist listen to him/her? |  |
| Did the oncologist listen to him/her? | Was the oncologist ready to listen to the patient? |  |
| Has he/she received the desired information? | Has the patient received the desired information? Did he/she expect more? |  |
| In the course of the consultation was he/she able to ask all the questions he/she wanted?  If not, why?  Did he/she have other questions to ask? | Was the patient able to ask all the questions he/she wanted?  If not, why?  Did the patient have other questions to ask? | Did the patient and the relative ask all the questions that they wanted to ask? |