



### INTRODUCTION

- Patients often do not report urinary incontinence (UI) to their doctors
- Patients find it embarrassing, perceived it as normal and part of the aging process, had low expectations of benefits from treatment, or were never told otherwise by their doctors<sup>1-3</sup>
- Patients' relationships with their physicians can be a barrier to seeking care for UI<sup>4</sup>.

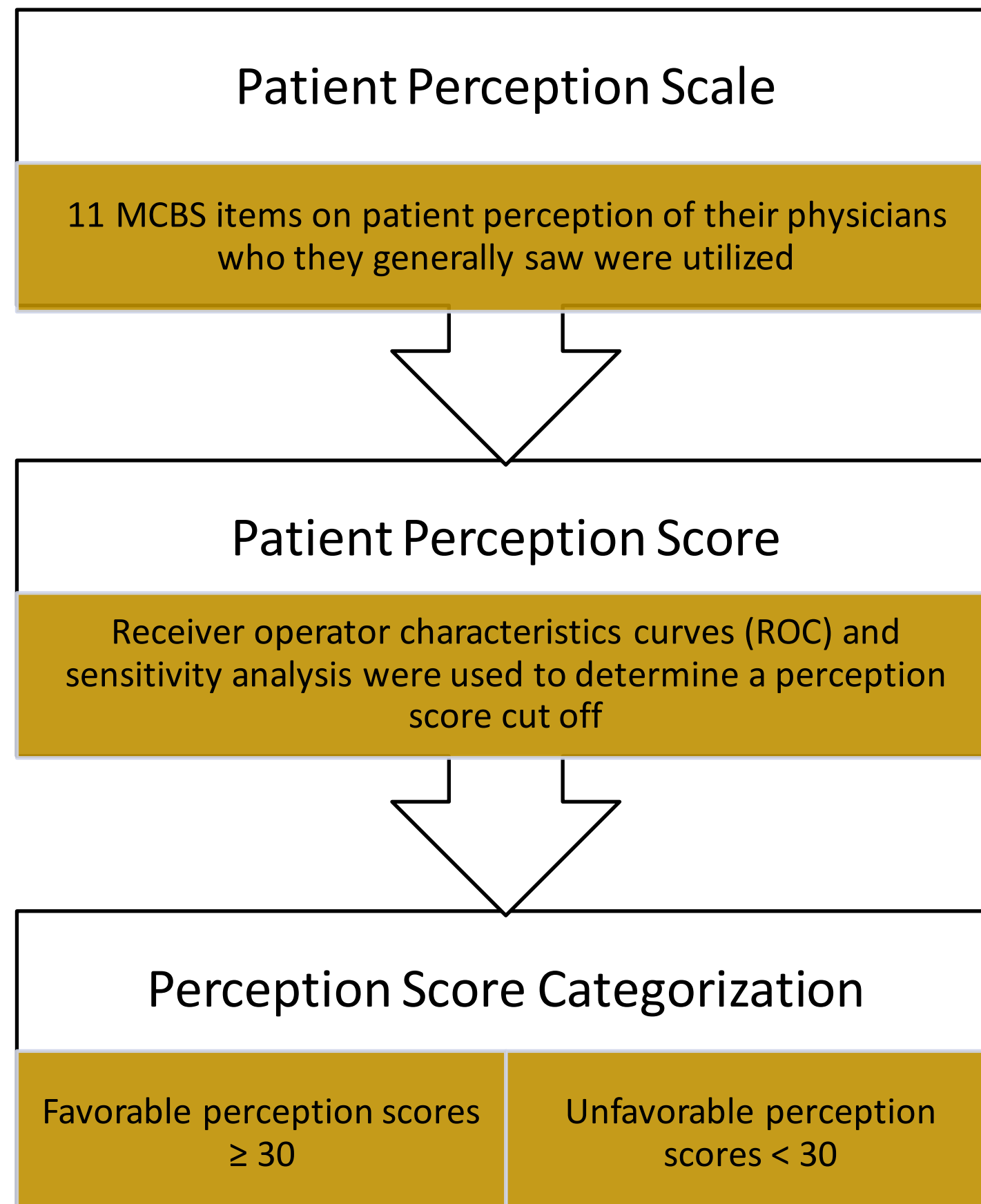
### OBJECTIVE

- To assess an association between patient perceptions of their physicians and discussion of urinary incontinence with their physicians

### METHODS

- 2016 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) data was utilized
- Inclusion Criteria
  - 65 years old or older
  - Residing in the community
  - Experienced UI 2 to 3 times a month, about once a month, or more than once a week
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Proxy responders
  - Residing in long term care
  - Dementia or Alzheimer's disease
  - Disability
  - End-stage renal disease
  - Missing responses on any of the study variables

### METHODS



### Data Analysis

- SAS version 9.4 for Unix
- A priori alpha level of 0.05
- Logistic regression to assess association

### RESULTS

#### Patient Perception Scales and Scores

- 1,372 beneficiaries were included
- Cronbach alpha for the scale: 0.93
- Score range : 15 to 44
- Mean scores: 36.57 (SD=5.29)

#### Perception of Physician and Discussing UI

- Beneficiaries with favorable perception were more likely to talk to their physicians compared to those with unfavorable perception
- Odds ratio (OR)= 1.55, 95% confidence interval (CI)=1.03 to 2.35, p-value = 0.038

#### Association between Depression and Discussing UI

- Beneficiaries without depression were less likely to talk to their physicians about UI compared to those with depression
- OR: 0.73; 95% CI: 0.56-0.95; p-value =0.017

#### Association between E-cigarette and Discussing UI

- Beneficiaries who responded no to ever used e-cigarettes were more likely to talk their physicians about UI compared to those who responded yes
- OR: 1.54; 95% CI: 1.02-2.34; p-value= 0.041

### CONCLUSIONS

- Beneficiaries with more favorable perception of their physician were more likely to talk to them about experiencing UI

### FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

- The authors have no financial conflicts of interests to disclose

### REFERENCES

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