The aim of this study was to explore the role of gender of the physician and gender of the patient in explaining differences in patient satisfaction. Overall, 1,130 patients were assigned to one of 4 possible physician-patient sex dyads and were interviewed with a questionnaire about their patient satisfaction. Female patients in a dyad with a female physician were most satisfied with the overall judgment of practice visit and the inclusion of life situation in comparison to all other dyads. Male patients in a dyad with a male physician were least satisfied. In the future, the specific role of patient-physician dyads has to be considered more in the assessment of subdimensions of patient satisfaction.
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