The development of decision aids for patients with cancer has helped to engage patients in decision making. Engaging in a shared decision-making process may reduce decisional conflict when making a choice regarding cancer treatment and may set the stage for more positive outcomes. Decision aids, which prepare patients to participate and share in their health care, use specific health information related to a particular decision (O’Connor et al., 2003). Decision aids seem most effective when they are interactive, capture values, and are tailored to the individual patient’s history, as well as elicited by a shared decision process (O’Connor et al., 2003; Skinner et al., 2002). Shared decisions are the ability to actively understand and influence health status through interaction with healthcare professionals. Shared decision making involves open communication between the patient, their caregiver, and the healthcare provider about the advantages and disadvantages of a particular treatment, taking into account the patient’s personal values (Bowen et al., 2006; Jones, Steeves, & Williams, 2010). Visual aids that assist patients to share in decision making can help healthcare providers offer more efficient health care and, potentially, may lead to improved quality of life for the patient (Dauer et al., 2011; Hahn et al., 2004).

Although several decision aids for patients with early or localized cancers exist, they provide information only on the disease, generally are not theoretically driven, and are not always interactive (Fiset et al., 2008). Very few decision aids focus on advanced-stage cancers, particularly advanced-stage prostate and lung cancers. The current study examined the feasibility and acceptability of using a decision aid and an interactive decision-making process with patients with solid tumors (newly diagnosed breast cancer, advanced-stage prostate cancer, and advanced-stage lung cancer).