

Innovative Adaptation and Dissemination of AHRQ Comparative Effectiveness Research Products

Adaptation of Consumer Summaries for Patients with Low Health Literacy

Purpose/Description

Patient decision aids are tools developed specifically to aid patients in making health care decisions where an optimal course is uncertain and patients' individual preferences are central in decision making. The purpose of this study was to develop educational videos for patients with Osteoarthritis (OA), Osteoporosis (OP), and Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) that explain better, the information provided in patient education booklets and help them make a decision about their treatment.

Project Aims

The three main aims of this study are to:

- 1) Evaluate the informational needs of patients with knee OA, RA, and OP, and clinicians who treat them.
- 2) Develop low literacy English and Spanish language multimedia patient decision aids for knee OA, RA, and OP.
- 3) Evaluate the efficacy of decision aids, compared to current products, in randomized clinical trials.

Findings

The study enrolled 630 patients: 314 were assigned to the multimedia decision aid and 316 to the paper-format. No major statistically significant differences were observed in baseline characteristics between intervention and control groups. After completion, patients in the intervention group achieved significantly greater improvements in knowledge compared to controls. Participants preferred how the information was presented in the multimedia decision aid regarding: impact of disease, medications, self-care, side effects, and length. These results support the efficacy of the multimedia decision aids over the paper-based format in improving patient knowledge and the decision aids' usability in limited literacy populations.

Study Population

Low-Literacy Latino

Health Condition Addressed

Osteoarthritis
Osteoporosis
Rheumatoid Arthritis

Dissemination Tool and/or Method

Multimedia Patient Decision Aid
(English and Spanish)

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Return to main iADAPT page.