HEALTH SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

I'm convinced that shared decision making leads to better health outcomes and helps patients follow their treatment plans. How can I make it easy for our clinicians to take that approach?

Tools to Support Shared Decision Making

Decision aids are tools that provide information about available treatment options, help patients clarify their values and preferences, and encourage patients, their families, and clinicians to communicate effectively. Research has shown that patients who use decision aids are better informed about their options, have more accurate perceptions of risk, make decisions that are better aligned with their goals and preferences, and are more comfortable with their decisions. PCORI is funding several studies comparing decision aids and how to use them most effectively.
As of August 2019, PCORI has awarded $128 million to fund 55 comparative clinical effectiveness research studies related to shared decision making.

**STUDY SPOTLIGHTS**

**Shared Decision Making in the Emergency Department**

Although chest pain often sends people to emergency departments, many are not having a heart attack or other serious heart problem. Shared decision making, using a questionnaire called Chest Pain Choice, proved effective in helping people decide whether to stay in the hospital for evaluation or return home for later follow up. People who used the questionnaire knew more about their risk and care options and were more involved in their care decisions than people who didn’t use it. Results appear in *The BMJ*. Further details about this project are at [www.pcori.org/Hess030](http://www.pcori.org/Hess030).

**Promoting Informed Decisions about Lung Cancer Screening**

A video-based decision aid titled “Lung Cancer Screening: Is It For Me?” facilitates shared decision making by helping patients understand the risks and benefits of annual screening for lung cancer using low-dose computed tomography. This study is comparing the experiences and decisions that people make after viewing the video as compared to standard educational materials about screening. For more information about this project, visit [www.pcori.org/Volk029](http://www.pcori.org/Volk029).

**BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS**

**Most Studied Conditions**

- CANCER: 18
- CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE: 11
- NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS: 6
- MENTAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: 5
- REPRODUCTIVE AND PERINATAL HEALTH: 4
- RESPIRATORY DISEASES: 3

**Most Studied Populations of Interest**

- RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES: 42
- WOMEN: 24
- URBAN: 18
- LOW INCOME: 24
- OLDER ADULTS: 24
- LOW HEALTH LITERACY: 16

- Shared Decision Making Studies
- Patient Decision Aid

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