Module 2: Using Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) in Shared Decision Making

Module Goal/Aim

The goal of this module is to support clinicians’ efforts to provide patient-centered clinical care through shared decision making and the use of findings from patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR).

Module Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to explain or describe:

- Patient-centered care and PCOR
- Attributes/advantages of PCOR in augmenting patient-centered care in the context of shared decision making
- How PCOR is conducted
- How to access AHRQ’s PCOR resources for patients and clinicians
- AHRQ’s PCOR materials appropriate to participant's practice area
- How to incorporate PCOR materials into shared decision making

Timing

This module will take 90 minutes to present (NOTE TO INSTRUCTOR: Specific breakdown of times allotted for discussion/activity will appear within the module).

Learning Methodology Checklist

- Large group discussion
- PowerPoint slide presentation

Materials Checklist

- LCD projector and laptop
- Flip chart (with tape or sticky band) or a whiteboard
- Markers
- Internet access is recommended to demonstrate the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program Web site and AHRQ Patient Decision Aids.
- Module 2 Participant Guide – one per participant (see details below)
Samples of AHRQ Consumer and Clinician Summaries to pass around the class

**Instructor Preparation**

**4 weeks before training**

- Order a variety of sample AHRQ Consumer Summaries and Clinician Summaries to display or to pass around the room.

  To view available topics, go to:


  To order one or more full-color print copies, call the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse at 800-358-9295 or order online at the AHRQ Publication Clearinghouse Web site ([http://ahrqpubs.ahrq.gov](http://ahrqpubs.ahrq.gov)). Ask for the publications by the title and number and refer to order code E-8.

**2 weeks before training**

- Photocopy Module 2 materials and assemble into Module 2 Participant Guide workbooks for each participant. Include:
  - Module 2 PowerPoint slide set (3 slides per page)
  - Accessing and Navigating AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program Web Site Handout (located at the back of Module 2 in your Trainer’s Guide.)

**On the day of the training**

- Have the SHARE Approach screen saver showing on your computer to share with participants as they come into the classroom.
- Have the **Module 2: Using Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) in Shared Decision Making** PowerPoint file open and minimized on the computer.
- Have the Patient Decision Aid from the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program Web site open and minimized on the computer. Find them at [http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/tools-and-resources/patient-decision-aids/](http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/tools-and-resources/patient-decision-aids/)
- Have samples of AHRQ Consumer and Clinician Summaries on a variety of topics available to pass around.
**Module 2 USING PCOR IN SHARED DECISION MAKING (3 minutes)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slide 1</th>
<th>DO: Open PowerPoint called, Module 2: Using Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) in Shared Decision Making.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slide 2</td>
<td>SAY: Module 2 is titled, Using Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) in Shared Decision Making. In this second module, we are going to learn about patient-centered outcomes research or PCOR (pronounced “PEA core”) for short. We will also learn how PCOR is used in shared decision making between clinicians and their patients and caregivers. We will also address how you can find evidence-based resources for your practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Slide 3 | SAY: By the end of this module, you should be able to:  
- Define patient-centered care and patient-centered outcomes research.  
- Discuss attributes and advantages of patient-centered outcomes research in augmenting patient-centered care in the context of shared decision making.  
- Explain AHRQ’s role in PCOR and resources.  
- Describe how to incorporate PCOR materials into shared decision making. |
• Explain how to access AHRQ’s PCOR resources for patients and clinicians.

**PATIENT-CENTERED CARE** (10 minutes)

**Slide 4**

**SAY:** Let’s begin by going over patient-centered care. In 2001, the Institute of Medicine (called IOM for short) defined patient-centered care as providing care that is respectful of and responsive to individual patient preferences, needs, and values, and ensuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions.

Patient-centered care is an essential foundation for quality and patient safety.

**Slide 5**

**SAY:** The IOM also said that systems must be designed to serve the needs of patients; to ensure that patients are fully informed, retain control, and participate in care delivery whenever possible; and they receive care that is respectful of their values and preferences.

Shared decision making—involving the patient in decisions about their care—fosters patient-centered care.

**Slide 6**

**SAY:** As you recall, Step 2 of the SHARE Approach says to “Help your patient explore and compare treatment options.” This requires you know the benefits and risks of each treatment option and understand how they relate to your patient’s situation and condition. Understanding how the options compare to one another helps you to better discuss the benefits and risks of each treatment option.

Step 2 also requires having good evidence-based tools to help you explain and compare options.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slide 7</th>
<th>Resources based on patient-centered outcomes research, or PCOR, can help with Step 2 of the SHARE Approach.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASK:</strong> How do you keep up with the latest evidence on treatment options? How do you help your patients compare options? <strong>DO:</strong> Write responses on a white board. <strong>SAY:</strong> To recap, resources based on patient-centered outcomes research, or PCOR, can help with Step 2 of the SHARE Approach.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slide 8</td>
<td><strong>SAY:</strong> Let’s go over some fundamentals of PCOR. To clarify, you may have also heard PCOR called comparative effectiveness research or CER (pronounced C-E-R). PCOR and CER are synonymous terms. For our module, we will be using the term PCOR or patient-centered outcomes research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slide 9</td>
<td><strong>SAY:</strong> PCOR can be applied to myriad of interventions, including preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, palliative, or health delivery system interventions. PCOR compares the benefits and harms of these interventions. PCOR aims to find out how well interventions work in everyday practice settings, not just in clinical trials. Ideally, PCOR looks at the effectiveness of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
interventions, considering variables not always tested in clinical trials. These variables may include patients who have multiple conditions, are older, or are a different gender than those included in clinical trials. As you know, these types of variables can affect how well a treatment works.

PCOR focuses on outcomes that matter to patients.

**Slide 10**

**ASK:** What are some outcomes that may matter to patients?

**DO:** Call on one or two participants to respond.

**Slide 11**

**SAY:** Outcomes that are patient-centered are those that patients notice and care about when they make health care decisions.

Yet, as we know, each patient is different, and what matters to one may not matter to another.

High blood pressure or high serum cholesterol levels may not cause alarm to some patients because the person may not feel sick or look sick. Without noticeable symptoms, it may be difficult for a patient to know that change is needed. This patient may not be motivated to make lifestyle changes or seek treatment.

Part of good shared decision making is talking with your patients about what they feel is important.
Slide 12

**Patient-centered outcomes**

Outcomes that matter to patients may include:
- Quality of life
- Mobility
- Ability to carry out certain tasks
- Ability to focus
- Ability to return to work
- Side effects/risks of treatment
- Symptoms (e.g., pain, nausea)
- Survival

Consider that outcomes might be different for each patient.

**SAY:** Some outcomes that may matter to patients can include:
- Quality of life
- Mobility
- Ability to carry out certain tasks
- Ability to focus
- Ability to return to work
- Side effects and risks of treatment
- Symptoms (e.g., pain, nausea)
- Survival

Slide 13

**Primary aim of PCOR**

To help inform patients, health care providers, and others as they make health care decisions.

**How?**
- In clinical setting, use PCOR as your base in shared decision making:
  - Help your patients compare and weigh options.
  - Learn what is important to them.
  - Engage in two-way communication.

**Evidence-based information about treatment options can help your patients be active participants in the shared decision-making process.**

**SAY:** To review, the primary goal of PCOR is to help inform patients, health care providers, and others as they make health care decisions.

In the clinical setting, you can help your patients compare and weigh options to determine what treatment options work and which options may be better than other available options. Once you know what is important to your patient, you can engage in two-way communication using PCOR as your base.

Offering evidence-based information about treatment options can help your patients be active participants in the shared decision-making process.

Slide 14

**Informing health care decisions**

In other settings, PCOR can inform clinical practice guideline development and policy decisions.

**SAY:** In other settings, PCOR can also inform clinical practice guideline development and policy decisions.
**Slide 15**

**SAY:** PCOR can be described as “tools, not rules.”

PCOR is informative, and it is not meant to dictate health decisions. PCOR allows you to offer information to help your patients come to a health decision that works for their lives.

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**Slide 16**

**SAY:** PCOR is **not** intended to tell health care providers how they should be practicing medicine.

Because PCOR is only information, it cannot provide guidance by itself.

It is meant to complement, not replace clinical judgment that is tailored to individual patients.

**It is not a clinical practice guideline**, it does not replace clinical practice guidelines, and it does not make clinical practice recommendations.

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**Slide 17**

**SAY:** There are a few major players involved in funding the majority of PCOR work in the United States.

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, also known as PCORI (pronounced “Pea-Core-E” for short) and the National Institutes of Health fund primary research studies.

PCORI is an independent, quasi-governmental organization that was authorized as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to conduct PCOR.
Slide 18

**SAY:** Because PCOR is meant to help inform patient and clinician decision making, it is imperative that the research gets to those who need it.

Slide 19

**SAY:** So there is a big focus on dissemination of PCOR as well. The major funders of dissemination work are PCORI and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, or AHRQ. As the sponsor of this workshop, AHRQ encourages using PCOR in shared decision making. So, for the rest of this module we will focus on AHRQ’s role in PCOR dissemination and the PCOR resources available from AHRQ.

**AHRQ’s EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM (25 minutes)**

Slide 20

**SAY:** AHRQ’s PCOR dissemination activities occur primarily through the Effective Health Care Program.
**Slide 21**

**SAY:** The first step of disseminating PCOR is synthesizing all of the primary research on a particular topic.

The Effective Health Care Program conducts systematic reviews of available evidence. These reviews thoroughly compare the benefits and harms of treatment options. The reviews explain what is known—and what is not known—about health care interventions.

**Slide 22**

**SAY:** Effective Health Care Program systematic reviews are called Comparative Effectiveness Reviews. They are comprehensive technical documents that are usually hundreds of pages long. Each report also includes an executive summary that summarizes the findings in about 20 to 30 pages.

These reports are available free of charge on the AHRQ Effective Health Care Web site. Visit [www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov](http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov) to learn more.

**DO:** Pass some AHRQ samples out now.

**Slide 23**

**SAY:** AHRQ’s Evidence-based Practice Centers, also referred to as EPCs, conduct the comparative effectiveness reviews.

The EPCs are independent research organizations and institutions with extensive expertise in conducting systematic reviews of literature. They conduct research under contract to AHRQ.

The EPC program policies require organizations and staff to disclose any and all potential conflicts of interest prior to conducting a comparative effectiveness review. Actively managing any conflict issues ensures that the reviews are trustworthy and unbiased.
SAY: This screen-grab shows examples of the topic areas that have undergone comparative effectiveness reviews by AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program.

The reviews address a wide variety of conditions, including common ones, such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, arthritis, mental health disorders, and many more. It is likely that at least some of these resources are relevant to your practice area.

ASK: Which of these broad topics are relevant to you?

DO: Call on a few people to respond.

SAY: The Effective Health Care Program works with a variety of stakeholders to identify priority topic areas for review to ensure they meet the needs of its users.

These stakeholders include professional societies, health plans, insurers, employers, and importantly, patients, and clinicians like you.
Slide 27

SAY: You can look on AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program Web site to see what topics have been submitted and what topics are currently in development for review. All suggestions are carefully considered based on a set of criteria. Topics that are given priority address clinical uncertainties, focus on important subgroups, and will be used to inform decision making.

Slide 28

SAY: AHRQ is committed to ensuring that each review is relevant to patients and other stakeholders. Adhering to the principles of PCOR, AHRQ engages stakeholders in all phases of PCOR research, from suggesting topics and commenting on key questions and outcomes to being actively involved in the review of all drafts products.

Slide 29

SAY: An important part of PCOR is ensuring that the findings are relevant to the end users. The Effective Health Care Program takes the comprehensive 200-page report gathered from evidence synthesis and creates plain language documents for patients, providers, and policymakers based on these larger evidence-based reports.
SAY: This slide shows some of the products that AHRQ makes available. We’ve been passing them around. We also have a number of these materials on display in the back of the room.

SAY: These products are designed to encourage conversations between clinicians and patients to enhance shared decision making.

All of these resources are available for online viewing and for print in PDF format. You can also access and view these AHRQ resources on mobile devices and smart phones.

You can also order them for little or no cost from AHRQ’s Publications Clearinghouse. We’ll show you how to do that a little later.

Let’s explore some of the clinician resources first, and discuss how they can help you with shared decision making.
SAY: Let’s go over the resources available for health providers.

For you and your clinician colleagues, AHRQ offers several types of clinician resources that can help you engage in shared decision making with your patients. These resources are based on the systematic reviews of the literature from the Effective Health Care Program. They are designed to help you learn about the research in a variety of easy-to-navigate formats. These include clinician research summaries, CME/CE modules, faculty slides, and webcasts.

When you know the treatment options and how they compare to one another in terms of benefits and risk, you can help your patients make optimal treatment decisions that work for their lives.

SAY: The Clinician Research Summaries offer the clinical bottom line in a few pages, highlight the strength of evidence behind the report’s conclusions, and describe gaps in current evidence. There are over 50 clinician summaries in print and available online.
**Slide 34**

**Clinician research summaries**

- Use them in shared decision making with your patients
- Serve as quick reference/review to compare treatment options
- Help you convey the evidence-based treatment options and how they compare in benefits and risks to your patients
- Easy to navigate, download, and share

**SAY:** You can use these summaries in shared decision making with your patients. You can review these as a quick reference to compare treatment options. They can help you convey the evidence behind the treatment options and how they compare in benefits and risks to your patients.

**DO:** Pass the Clinician Research Summaries around the room or refer to the samples in the back of the room.

**Slide 35**

**Clinician CME/CE Activities**

**SAY:** You can also participate in free online continuing education (CME/CE) from AHRQ. These courses are based on specific full Comparative Effectiveness Reviews. Credits are available for several different types of clinicians.

**Slide 36**

**Clinician faculty slides and resources**

- Faculty slides
- Webcasts

**SAY:** Faculty slide sets contain prepared talks and PowerPoint slide presentations to use in grand rounds or journal clubs. The prepared slide sets help educate clinicians, researchers, and other health professionals in training.

**SAY:** AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program also sponsors webcasts and conferences you can use for additional education and training activities.
**DO:** Pass the **Consumer Research Summaries** around the room.

**SAY:** For your patients, AHRQ offers **Consumer Research Summaries** and **Interactive Patient Decision Aids**. These resources are written in consumer-friendly language and are designed for patients with certain conditions to help them think about what is important to them when talking with their clinician about treatment options.

**DO:** Show participants examples in the research summary, as you list the criteria below.

**Slide 38**

**SAY:** In addition to being written in plain language writing, the **Consumer Research Summaries** follow effective, proven health literacy principles. They should:

- Be written in plain language for easier comprehension.
- Start off by stating who will benefit from the booklet
- Use large type for reading ease
- Have effective line length for optimal readability

**Slide 39**

**SAY:** They also:

- Use headers and sub-headers to direct the reader
- Use photographs that show actions you hope your readers will take
- List questions to ask the doctor or health care provider
- Offer space for the reader to fill in answers and write their own questions
- Are often available in Spanish or in audio version
The patient resources are available online, in print, and in audio versions.

**Slide 40**

A key element of these patient resources, which makes them valuable for shared decision making, is that their use aims to involve patients and family members in decisions. These resources help in three ways:

1. They inform patients and their caregivers about options.
2. They clarify patients’ preferences for risks and benefits of options.
3. They encourage patients and family members to discuss their preferences with their clinicians.

**Slide 41**

You can discuss the information in the Consumer Research Summaries with patients during clinical encounters or consultations.

Consider placing the Consumer Research Summaries in your waiting rooms and exam rooms. Offer them as take-home materials to discuss at your next visit.

**Slide 42**

AHRQ also offers Interactive Patient Decision Aids that are designed to facilitate shared decision making. You will find culturally relevant videos and slide shows to help your patients as they make important health decisions.

You can direct your patients to the Web site to view at home or in your office.
SAY: Let’s take a look at one interactive decision aid now.

DO: Minimize the PowerPoint presentation and go to the AHRQ Effective Health Care Web site. You should already have your browser on the following page:
http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/decisionaids/urinary-incontinence/

NOTE: Show more than one interactive aid if there is time. Also, have the site up on the computer at breaks so participants can see the interactive tools.

ASK: Can you think of other ways that you might use these resources with patients?

How would you introduce them? At the visit, to take home?

DO: Write suggestions on the white board.

SAY: Here are some examples of how organizations have shared the patient resources. You will find other examples in Tool 8, on page 7.
SAY: Now that we have talked about PCOR, and AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program as a prominent resource for practical PCOR tools and resources, you may be asking yourself, “Why should I use this information?”

SAY: Sharing evidence-based decision aids, such as AHRQ’s PCOR resources, through a coordinated effort of shared decision making with patients and their caregivers improves patient care. A growing body of literature shows that providing patients with decision aids regarding their health treatment or screening decisions can have positive results. You can find a nice summary of the evidence on pages 3 and 4 of Tool 9. We will talk more about this in Module 4.

SAY: Using decision aids can:
- Improve patient knowledge regarding their options
- Reduce patients’ decisional conflict
- Increase patients’ active role in decision making
- Improve accurate risk perceptions of possible benefits and harms among patients
- Increase the likelihood that patients’ choices are more consistent with their informed values
- Enhance communication between patients and their clinicians

Some evidence suggests that using decision aids in shared decision making also has the potential...
to improve patient outcomes. For example, a number of studies have shown that it can improve treatment adherence.

**ACCESSING EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM PRODUCTS**

**Slide 49**

**DO:** Distribute the *Accessing Effective Health Care Programs Product Fact Sheet.*

**SAY:** Now let’s spend a little bit of time talking about how you can access AHRQ Effective Health Care Program content online.

Let’s refer to our handout, *Accessing and Navigating AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program Web site* now. You will find it at the end of Module 2 in your notebook. We’ll spend a bit of time going over navigation now. We won’t be going through the handout page by page, but rather highlight several areas.

**Slide 50**

**SAY:** The best way to get familiar with the site is to visit it and begin navigating around the site when you have a few minutes to spare once you get back to your job site.

Go to [www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov](http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov). The Web address is on page 1 of the handout and also on your bookmark.
ASK: Have any of you ever visited this Web site? Have you used any of these resources before?

SAY: All of the Effective Health Care Program materials can be obtained and viewed online.

SAY: Let’s turn to page 3 of your handout. To find plain language materials for you and your patients, you will click on Research Summaries for Consumers, Clinicians, and Policymakers from the left-hand navigation bar.

Clicking on this link takes you to a page that highlights the varied topics for which you will find resources.

As mentioned, there are about 60 clinician summaries available on a variety of topics. Most of these have companion patient materials available in English and Spanish.

So, for example, if you select “Heart and Blood Vessel Conditions,” it takes you down the page to the list of available summaries.

SAY: This slide information can be found on page 4 of your handout.

The far left column shows available consumer summaries for patients. The middle column shows the corresponding clinician summary.

Now, if you select to view a particular consumer summary, for example, the one titled, “Choosing Medicines for High Blood Pressure,” you will be routed to the following page.
On page 5 of the handout, you’ll see you can view or print a PDF version of this patient resource in English and Spanish. Or you can even listen to an English or Spanish audio version of this consumer summary. If you want to see related resources or the full comprehensive report, just click on the links on the right hand side of the page as shown in this slide.

Now look on the far left column on page 8 in your handout. You would click “Tools and Resources” to access other tools and resources from the home page. This is how you’d view AHRQ’s Interactive Patient Decision Aids or Clinician Continuing Education Modules. Again, you can surf the Web site when you get back to the office and use this handout for a quick reference if needed.

Turn to page 9 in your handout. From the “Tools and Resources” page, you will be able to click on resources that you are specifically interested in.
**Slide 57**

**SAY:** Pages 10-12 in your handout describe how to order print copies. You can order print copies of all Effective Health Care Program products through the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse. For example, you may want to order bulk print copies of specific consumer summaries in English or Spanish to distribute to patients who visit your clinic. The process is easy; either order online or call the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse.

**Slide 58**

**SAY:** Page 13 of your handout shows you how to sign up for email updates to stay updated on research and resources from the Effective Health Care Program. You can receive email alerts when new clinician and consumer summaries become available.

**NOTE:** Instructor, let group know if you have signed up for the email updates.

**Slide 59**

**SAY:** Let’s briefly talk about further sharing these materials.
**Slide 60**

**Effective Health Care Program activities**
- Evidence synthesis
  - Conducting systematic reviews of existing evidence to compare treatment/intervention effectiveness and identifying relevant knowledge gaps
- Translation
  - Translating PCOR findings into plain language resources and tools for patients, providers, and policymakers
- Dissemination and Implementation
  - Ensuring the tools and resources get into the hands of the people who need them

**SAY:** The Effective Health Care Program works to ensure the PCOR findings and translation products get into the hands of the people who need them. AHRQ uses a variety of strategies and channels to do so. This workshop is one of those channels.

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**Slide 61**

**Effective Health Care Program activities**
- Through its dissemination and implementation efforts, AHRQ and the Effective Health Care Program have distributed:
  - More than 4 million PCOR products
  - Awarded more than 60,000 continuing education certificates

**SAY:** Through its dissemination and implementation efforts, AHRQ and the Effective Health Care Program have distributed more than 4 million PCOR products and awarded more than 60,000 continuing education certificates.

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**Slide 62**

**Key takeaways**
- The primary goal of PCOR is to help inform patients, health care providers, and others as they make health care decisions.
- AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program offers a variety of evidence-based PCOR resources for health providers and patients to support shared decision making.
- You can access the materials by ordering or by downloading online.

**SAY:** To review, in **Module 2: Patient-Centered Outcomes Research** we have discussed that the key information includes:

The primary goal of PCOR is to help inform patients, health care providers, and others as they make health care decisions.

AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program offers a variety of evidence-based PCOR resources for health providers and patients to support shared decision making.

And finally, you can access these resources online or by ordering them from AHRQ’s Publications Clearinghouse.
Slide 63

Citations

Module 2 Handout
Accessing and Navigating AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program Web Site

Contents
Accessing the Effective Health Care Program Web Site 2
Accessing Consumer and Clinician Treatment Summaries 3
Accessing Consumer Materials 5
Accessing Clinician Materials 6
Finding Other Tools and Resources 8
How to Order Print Copies of Consumer/Clinician Materials 10
Subscribe to Receive E-mail Updates 13
Accessing the Effective Health Care Program Web Site

The Effective Health Care Program is available online at:

http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/
Accessing Consumer and Clinician Treatment Summaries

To find plain language materials for you and your patients, click on “Research Summaries for Consumers, Clinicians, and Policymakers” from the left-hand navigation bar.

This will take you to a page listing the primary topics for AHRQ Treatment Summaries.
Select your **topic** of interest to see available treatment summaries.

**Policymaker Summaries** (when available) are listed in the **right** panel.

**Clinician Summaries** are listed in the **middle** panel of the page.

Companion **Consumer Summaries** are listed on the **left** panel of the page.

Consumer Summaries are also available in **Spanish**.

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### Heart and Blood Vessel Conditions

- **Consumer Summaries**
  - Taking Dietary Supplements With Heart, Blood Pressure, or Cholesterol Medicines: A Review of the Research for Adults (En Español)
    - Apr. 10, 2013
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12(13)-EHC021-A
  - Preventing Blood Clots After Hip or Knee Replacement Surgery or Surgery for a Broken Hip: A Review of the Research for Adults (En Español)
    - Aug. 30, 2012
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12-EHC020-A
  - Measuring Your Blood Pressure at Home: A Review of the Research for Adults (En Español)
    - Feb. 22, 2012
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12-EHC002-A
  - Choosing Medicines for High Blood Pressure: A Review of the Research on ACEs, ARBs, and DRIs (En Español)
    - Oct. 24, 2011
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 11(12)-EHC063-A
  - "ACE Inhibitors" and "ARBs" To Protect Your Heart? (En Español)
    - Jul. 09, 2010
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 10-EHC002-A
  - Radiofrequency Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation: A Guide for Adults (En Español)
    - Nov. 16, 2000
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 09(10)-EHC015-A
  - Utilization and Clinical Data on In-Hospital Off-Label Uses of Recombinant Factor VIIa
    - Oct. 29, 2010
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 10(11)-EHC030-3

- **Clinician Summaries**
  - Use Versus Nonuse of Dietary Supplements in Adults Taking Cardiovascular Drugs
    - Apr. 10, 2013
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12(13)-EHC021-3
  - Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis in Orthopedic Surgery
    - Aug. 30, 2012
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12-EHC020-3
  - Effectiveness of Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring in Adults With Hypertension
    - Feb. 22, 2012
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 12-EHC002-3
  - ACEls, ARBs, or DRI for Adults With Hypertension
    - Oct. 24, 2011
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 11(12)-EHC063-3
  - Adding ACEIs and/or ARBs to Standard Therapy for Stable Ischemic Heart Disease: Benefits and Harms
    - Jul. 9, 2010
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 10-EHC002-3
  - Radiofrequency Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation: Clinician’s Guide
    - Nov. 16, 2009
    - AHRQ Pub. No. 09(10)-EHC015-3

- **Policymaker Summaries**
Accessing Consumer Materials

Below is an example of what you will see if you were to select AHRQ’s “Choosing Medicines for High Blood Pressure” summary.

This view presents an HTML view of the selected Consumer Summary. You can also access (1) a PDF summary, (2) an MP3 audio of the summary, (3) a Spanish summary, and (4) various other related materials.
### Accessing Clinician Materials

Follow the steps outlined for accessing “Consumer” materials. Except now select the “Clinician Summary” of interest.

See example below.

| Heart and Blood Vessel Conditions |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| **Consumer Summaries**            | **Clinician Summaries** | **Policymaker Summaries** |
| Taking Dietary Supplements With Heart, Blood Pressure, or Cholesterol Medicines: A Review of the Research for Adults (En Español) | Use Versus Nonuse of Dietary Supplements in Adults Taking Cardiovascular Drugs | Apr. 10, 2013 AHRQ Pub. No. 12(13)-EHC021-A |
| Choosing Medications for High Blood Pressure: A Review of the Research on ACEIs, ARBs, and DRIIs (En Español) | ACEIs, ARBs, or DRII for Adults With Hypertension | Oct. 24, 2011 AHRQ Pub. No. 11(12)-EHC063-3 |
| “ACE Inhibitors” and “ARBs” To Protect Your Heart? (En Español) | Adding ACEIs and/or ARBs to Standard Therapy for Stable Ischemic Heart Disease: Benefits and Harms | Jul. 9, 2010 AHRQ Pub. No. 10-EHC002-3 |
This will take you to a similar HTML page.
You can also access a PDF summary and various other related materials.
See sample below.
Finding Other Tools and Resources

From the Effective Health Care Program Home page, navigate to the “Tools and Resources” page.

This will take you to a page where you can access:

- Patient decision aids
- Continuing education activities
- A training slide library
- Webcasts
- Varied other resources

See below.
Tools and Resources

The Effective Health Care Program develops a wide array of products from its patient-centered outcomes research. These products include tools and resources to help consumers, clinicians, policymakers, and others make more informed health care decisions. The Program also produces products for researchers and others interested in the systematic study of evidence and research methods.

Looking for an Effective Health Care Program review or report? Search for Guides, Reviews, and Reports.

See Research Summaries for Consumers, Clinicians and Policymakers for plain language reviews of Effective Health Care Program published research studies.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) also has a resource for specialized searches of published research as well as research in progress related to comparative effectiveness research. Access this resource at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/ceer/ceersrpt.html.

Patient Decision Aids

- Recently added:
  - Taking Control: Non-surgical Treatment Options for Urinary Incontinence in Women

CME/CE Activities

- Recently added:
How to Order Print Copies of Consumer/Clinician Materials

From the Effective Health Care Program home page, select the “Research Summaries for Consumers, Clinicians, and Policymakers” left hand navigation bar.
On the Research Summaries page, you will see a link that says “How to Order Print Copies” in the top right hand corner of the page.

See below.
This page provides further instructions for ordering print materials. This page provides a link to AHRQ’s Publication Clearinghouse Web site (http://ahrqpubs.ahrq.gov/OA_HTML/ibeCZzpHome.jsp) to order materials online, or for the phone number (800-358-9295) to call to order publications you are interested in receiving.

Select “Effective Health Care” to view the list of these products.
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