

## User Manual – Preparation for Decision Making

### *Definition*

The ‘Preparation for Decision Making’ scale assesses a patient’s perception of how useful a decision aid or other decision support intervention is in preparing the respondent to communicate with their practitioner at a consultation visit and making a health decision (treatment/diagnostic/screening, etc.)

### *Sample Tool – patient version*

## Preparation for Decision Making Scale

Please show your opinion of the [educational material] by circling the number to show how much you agree with each statement.

		Not at all	A little	Some- what	Quite a bit	A great deal
1.	Help you recognize that a decision needs to be made?	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Prepare you to make a better decision?	1	2	3	4	5
3.	Help you think about the pros and cons of each option?	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Help you think about which pros and cons are most important?	1	2	3	4	5
5.	Help you know that the decision depends on what matters most to you?	1	2	3	4	5
6.	Help you organize your own thoughts about the decision?	1	2	3	4	5
7.	Help you think about how involved you want to be in this decision?	1	2	3	4	5
8.	Help you identify questions you want to ask your doctor?	1	2	3	4	5
9.	Prepare you to talk to your doctor about what matters most to you?	1	2	3	4	5
10.	Prepare you for a follow-up visit with your doctor?	1	2	3	4	5

**Preparation for Decision Making Scale** © ID Graham, AM O'Connor 1995, revised 2005 University of Ottawa

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### *Directions for Use*

This questionnaire is administered after a patient visits their practitioner to discuss treatment options, etc.

### *Scoring and Interpretation*

Items can be summed and scored. Scores can be converted to a 0 – 100 , by subtracting 1 from each item and multiplying each item by 25.

### *Psychometric Properties (patient version)*

Alpha coefficient ranges from .92 to .94. [1, 2]

Scale discriminates significantly between different decision support interventions [1]; the effect size is 1.8 [1]

### *Clinical Applications Using this Tool*

HRT [1]

Prostate Cancer

Breast Cancer Prevention [2]

Currently being used in Osteoporosis. [3]

Autologous blood donation [4]

### *Alternate Formats – practitioner version*

#### **Preparation for Decision Making**

The following questions refer to the [audiobooklet and patient’s personal worksheet, ‘Making Choices: Hormones after Menopause’] that was given to your patient prior to the follow-up consultation visit.

<b>To what extent did the use of the [audiobook and worksheet] by your <u>patient</u>:</b>	Not At All	A Little	Some what	Quite A Bit	A Great Deal
help [her] to fully understand the risks and benefits of LTP-HRT?	1	2	3	4	5
help [her] identify the importance she places on the risks and benefits of LTP-HRT?	1	2	3	4	5
prepare [her] for the follow-up consultation visit?	1	2	3	4	5
help [her] be as involved in the decision making process as she desired?	1	2	3	4	5
help [her] to make a more informed decision?	1	2	3	4	5

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To what extent did the use of the [audiobook and worksheet] by your <u>patient</u> :	Not At All	A Little	Some what	Quite A Bit	A Great Deal
help you to more fully understand the issues that are most important to [her]?	1	2	3	4	5
help you tailor your counseling to [her] preference for decision participation?	1	2	3	4	5
facilitate the follow-up consultation visit?	1	2	3	4	5
affect the patient-physician relationship?	1	2	3	4	5
improve the way time was spent during the follow-up consultation visit?	1	2	3	4	5
improve the quality of the follow-up consultation visit?	1	2	3	4	5

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### Availability

These tools are available in other languages as [listed here](#). They are protected by copyright but are freely available for you to use, provided you cite the reference in any questionnaires or publications. We would appreciate receiving a copy of any documents developed using this tool.

For further information or to send us documents you develop, please e-mail the Ottawa Health Decision Centre ([ohdec@ohri.ca](mailto:ohdec@ohri.ca)).

### References

1. O'Connor A, Jacobsen MJ, Elmslie T, Jolly E, Wells G, Bunn H, Hollingworth G, Graham I, McPherson R, Tugwell P. Simple vs Complex Patient Decision Aids: Is More Necessarily Better? *Medical Decision Making* 2000; 20(4): Abstract p. 496.
2. Stacey CD, O'Connor AM, DeGrasse C, Verma S. Development and evaluation of a breast cancer prevention decision aid for higher risk women. *Health Expectations* 2003; **6**: 3-18.
3. Cranney A, Tugwell P, O'Connor AM, Wells G, Adachi MD, Jolly E, et al. A randomized controlled trial evaluating the impact of a decision aid for individuals with osteoporosis. (In progress).
4. Grant FC, Laupacis A, O'Connor AM, Rubens F, Robblee J. Evaluation of a decision aid for patients considering autologous blood donation before open-heart surgery. *Canadian Medical Association Journal* 2001; **164**: 1139-1144.