

User Manual – Preparation for Decision Making Scale

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

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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

- a) Items can be summed and scored (sum the 10 items and divide by 10).
- b) Scores can be converted to a 0 – 100 scale by: subtracting 1 from the summed score in part a) and multiplying by 25.

Higher scores indicate higher perceived level of preparation for decision making.

Psychometric Properties (patient version)

Alpha coefficient ranges from .92 to .96. [1, 2, 4] Item-total correlation analyses were also high (0.75-0.81). [4]

Scale discriminates significantly between different decision support interventions [1, 4]; the effect size is 1.8. [1]

Total test reliability is high at 0.944. [4]

Clinical Applications Using this Tool

HRT [1]

Prostate Cancer

Breast Cancer Prevention [2]

Autologous blood donation [3]

Orthopaedic [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.

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 [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
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

You may use any of these scales at no cost without permission.

These tools are protected by copyright but are freely available for you to use, provided you cite the reference in any questionnaires or publications.

Suggested Citation

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References

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