

### **Definition**

‘Acceptability’ (of a decision aid) refers to ratings regarding the comprehensibility of components of a decision aid, its length, pace (if audio-visual), amount of information, balance in presentation of information about options, and overall suitability for decision making.

### **Sample Tool – patient version**

## **My thoughts on the education package on osteoporosis**

We would like to know what you think about the education package you have just reviewed.

1. Please rate each section, by circling ‘poor’, ‘fair’, ‘good’, or ‘excellent’ to show what you think about the way the information was presented on:

Impact of Osteoporosis	poor	fair	good	excellent
Risk Factors	poor	fair	good	excellent
Types of Research Studies	poor	fair	good	excellent
Self-Care Options	poor	fair	good	excellent
Evidence About Self-Care	poor	fair	good	excellent
Medication Options	poor	fair	good	excellent
Evidence About Medications	poor	fair	good	excellent
Stories About Others	poor	fair	good	excellent

2. The length of presentation was (*check one*)

- too long
- too short
- just right

3. The amount of information was (*check one*)

- too much information
- too little information
- just right

4. I found the presentation (*check one*)

- slanted towards taking self-care or lifestyle options
- slanted towards taking medical therapies
- balanced

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5. Would you have found this decision aid useful when you were making your decision about therapy for osteoporosis ?

Yes

No

Comments:

6. What did you think of the way to calculate your risk of fractures on the worksheet? (Step 1) Was it

easy to find your risk level, or

difficult?

Comments:

7. What did you think of the rest of the personal worksheet?

Did it make the decision

easier, or

more difficult?

Comments:

8. Do you think we included enough information to help a woman decide on therapy for osteoporosis?

Yes

No

Comments:

9. What did you like about the decision aid and worksheet?

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10. What suggestions do you have to improve the decision aid or worksheet?

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### *Directions for Use*

Acceptability questionnaires are frequently used during the development process and early evaluation of a decision aid. Feedback is used to refine the decision aid. Acceptability questionnaires have been developed for both patients and practitioners.

### *Scoring and Interpretation*

Responses can be reported descriptively in terms of proportions responding positively or negatively on each criteria.

### *Psychometric Properties*

### *Clinical Applications Using this Tool*

Atrial Fibrillation [1]  
HRT [2,3]  
Prenatal testing [4]  
Lung Cancer [5]  
Autologous blood donation [6]  
Osteoporosis [7]  
Long-term tube feeding [8]

### *Alternate Format – practitioner version*

#### **Practitioner Opinion Survey** (from the trial of an HRT Decision Aid)

The following set of questions asks about your perceptions of the decision support strategy you have been assigned. We are interested in your reactions to the strategy so please try to answer these questions in the same way you would if you had not agreed to take part in this study and were seeing the strategy for the first time. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement by *circling* the appropriate number.

In general:	Strongly Disagree		→		Strongly Agree
It will be easy for me to use.	1	2	3	4	5
It is easy for me to understand.	1	2	3	4	5
It will be easy for me to experiment with using the strategy before making a final decision to adopt it.	1	2	3	4	5
The results of using the strategy will be easy to see.	1	2	3	4	5
This strategy is better than how I usually go about helping patients decide about LTP-HRT.	1	2	3	4	5

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In general:	Strongly Disagree		→		Strongly Agree
This strategy is compatible with the way I think things should be done.	1	2	3	4	5
The use of this strategy is a more cost-effective than my usual approach to helping patients decide about LTP-HRT.	1	2	3	4	5
Compared with my usual approach, this strategy will result in my patients making more informed decisions.	1	2	3	4	5
Using this strategy will save me time.	1	2	3	4	5
This strategy is a reliable method of helping patients make decisions about LTP-HRT.	1	2	3	4	5
Pieces or components of the strategy can be used by themselves.	1	2	3	4	5
This type of strategy is suitable for helping patients make value laden choices.	1	2	3	4	5
This strategy complements my usual approach.	1	2	3	4	5
Using this strategy does not involve making major changes to the way I usually do things	1	2	3	4	5
There is a high probability that using this strategy may cause/result in more benefit than harm	1	2	3	4	5

Practitioner Opinion (Acceptability) Survey © ID Graham 1996

### 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

O'Connor AM & Cranney A. User Manual – Acceptability [document on the Internet]. Ottawa: Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; © 1996 [modified 2002; cited YYYY MM DD]. 5 p. Available from [http://decisionaid.ohri.ca/docs/develop/User\\_Manuals/UM\\_Acceptability.pdf](http://decisionaid.ohri.ca/docs/develop/User_Manuals/UM_Acceptability.pdf)

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