

Ottawa Decision Support Tutorial (ODST)

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The Ottawa Decision Support Tutorial (<https://decisionaid.ohri.ca/ODST/>) helps practitioners strengthen their skills in shared decision making and decision coaching. Upon completing the ODST, participants should be able to:

- describe concepts of decision support
- identify complex decisions requiring decision support
- explain how to assess patients' decisional needs
- tailor decision support to patients' needs
- explain how to use patient decision aids
- discuss how to evaluate decision support interventions

At the end of each section of the tutorial, there are self-assessment questions that provide immediate feedback on learning. There is a final quiz at the end of the tutorial and those who achieve 75% or higher on their first attempt at the final quiz, receive a Certificate of Completion.

The ODST has been evaluated in two randomized trials with nurses practicing in health call centers and in oncology/palliative care and one pre-/post-test study of health care professionals working at a cancer helpline [1-3]. It significantly improves knowledge of decision support. When it is combined with a skills building workshop, it improves the quality of decision support provided to simulated patients.

The ODST has been used to train healthcare practitioners in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. As well, nursing students in Canada use this tutorial within university courses. [4] It is free of charge and available in English and French. Financial support for its development, translation to French, and annual updating is provided by a federal research grant from the Government of Canada.

References

1. Stacey D, O'Connor A, Graham I, Pomey MP. Randomized controlled trial of the effectiveness of an intervention to implement evidence-based patient decision support in a nursing call centre. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare* 2006; 12:410-5.
2. Murray MA, Stacey D, Wilson KG, O'Connor AM. Skills training to support patients considering location of end-of-life care: A randomized control trial. *Journal of Palliative Care* 2010; 26(2):112-21.
3. Stacey D, Chambers SK, Jacobsen MJ, Dunn J. Overcoming barriers to cancer helpline professionals providing decision support for callers: An implementation study. *Oncology Nursing Forum* 2008; 35, 961-969.
4. Stacey D, Higuchi KS, Menard P, Davies B, Graham ID, O'Connor AM. Integrating patient decision support in an undergraduate nursing curriculum: An implementation study. *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship* 2009; 6(1), 1-18.