

## 282 - Conflict resolution: An experimental study of users' perceptions of and responses to conflict of interest disclosure statements in patient decision aids

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**Background and Aims:** Conflicts of interests have potential to undermine the usefulness of patient decision aids for enabling informed, values-concordant health decisions. Prevailing quality standards attempt to counteract the potential bias introduced by conflicts of interests by advocating disclosure. However, we know little about how decision aid users perceive and respond to conflict of interest disclosure statements and thus, whether this management strategy is adequate. This study aims to address this evidence gap.

**Methods:** We will conduct a 2 (conflicts of interest: absent, present) x 2 (disclosure statement: basic, enhanced) x 2 (delivery mode: doctor, online) between-subjects fractional factorial experiment. Approximately 360 English-speaking adults in the United States will be recruited using a commercial panel service with oversampling of participants with limited health literacy. Participants will be instructed to imagine they have been diagnosed with an illness, will be presented with a fictional one-page decision aid on treatment options, and will be advised either that they were given the decision aid by a doctor or found it online. The decision aid presented will feature one of four competing interest disclosure statements: basic–conflicts absent, basic–conflicts present, enhanced–conflicts absent, enhanced–conflicts present. The basic statements will be simple and brief, reflecting those typically present in existing decision aids. The enhanced statements will provide more detailed information, incorporate a pictogram representing the presence or absence of conflicts, and include a brief educational statement about possible effects of conflicts of interest. We will assess study outcomes (i.e., perceived decision aid credibility, decision aid acceptability, treatment choice, perceived values concordance of treatment choice, perceptions of disclosure statement) and administer a manipulation check immediately after decision aid exposure. Analyses examining the effects of conflicts of interest, disclosure statement, and delivery mode on study outcomes, along with relevant interactions, will be conducted separately by health literacy group.

**Results and Conclusions:** This study is ongoing and complete results will be available at the time of presentation. Study findings are critically for informing our understanding of the adequacy of current approaches to managing conflicts of interests related to patient decision aids.