Abstract for GIN conference 2012

DECISION AID CARDS LINKED TO RECOMMENDATIONS IN GRADE GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE SHARED DECISION MAKING IN CLINICAL CONSULTATIONS

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Background: Communicating information needed for patients to participate in shared decision making is challenging. This process can be facilitated by the use of decision aids. The production of such tools is time consuming, and little is known about factors affecting understanding, uptake and implementation at the point of care. In SHARE IT (Sharing evidence to Inform Treatment decisions) we will develop a new approach to shared decision making.

Objectives: To develop optimized presentation formats of decision aid cards directly linked to recommendations in electronic GRADE guidelines for use during clinical consultations, and to develop a model for automated production of these tools.

Methods: This study builds on the Decision aid model pioneered by Montori and colleagues, and is performed within the DECIDE project with methodology combining brainstorming, user-testing and stakeholder feedback. We are concurrently developing a prototype of an electronic guideline authoring tool that will allow automated production of decision aid cards using existing guideline content.

Results: We have developed prototypes of electronic decision aids.from actual guideline recommendations and piloted these in Norway and the US. Revised presentation formats and a model for automated production of cards will be presented at the meeting.

Discussion: Our decision aids have the potential to greatly improve the process of shared decision making. We will continue our research to develop optimized formats and evaluate their effect on decision making outcomes.

Implications for GL developers and users: Our model provides a practical approach to the incorporation of tools for shared decision making into guidelines.