

# 5. Reference parameters



## Recommendation

"In health information leaflets equivalent reference parameters should be used."

Agreed: 9, Disagreed: 0, Abstentions: 0

Quality of the evidence: high quality

## Comment on the recommendation:

The recommendation refers to the comparison of presentations with the same reference parameters to those with differing parameters.

In one study, the presentation with the same reference parameters in drug facts boxes showed a positive effect on the outcome *understanding / risk perception*. In the same study no difference was shown for the outcome *comprehensibility / readability*. No findings are recorded for all the other outcomes.

**Benefits and harm** should as far as possible be presented with the same reference parameter. If there are deviations from this recommendation, these must be well-founded and the change must be portrayed transparently.

## **Summary of the findings**

#### Characteristics of the included studies

For this comparison a single study was included with a total of 1,181 participants (9). The medium age was 47 years. The study was performed in the USA and included people from the general public. The interventions consisted of scenarios concerning cholesterol-reducing drugs and indigestion, each of which was presented in a drug facts box (9).

## Results for the relevant outcomes

For the outcome *understanding*, a positive effect was shown for the presentation with the same parameters throughout (9). No difference was shown for the outcome *comprehensibility / readability* (9).