

1. Anatomical images



"Anatomical images may be used to supplement a text."

Agreed: 9, Disagreed: 0, Abstentions: 1 Quality of the evidence: moderate quality

Comment on the recommendation:

The recommendation refers to the comparison of text supplemented by anatomical images with text only.

In this comparison, one study showed no effect for the cognitive outcomes *knowledge* and *comprehensibility / readability*. A positive effect for using anatomical images was found in one study each for the affective outcomes *acceptance / attractiveness* and *trust / credibility*.

Summary of the findings

Characteristics of the included studies

In this comparison two studies were included. In a study in the Netherlands, 143 bowel cancer patients with an average age of 68 years were investigated (1). The intervention consisted of anatomical images about an endoscopic method of operation and about how to insert a stoma. An online study in Great Britain (n=901, average age 27 years) showed the effect of using MRT images to supplement personalized details concerning cardiovascular risk (7).

Results for the relevant outcomes

For the outcomes *knowledge* and *understanding* no effect was shown when anatomical images were used in health information (1). Positive effects were shown for the outcomes *acceptance / attractiveness* when anatomical images were used (1, 7).