

Recommendation

	<p>Recommendation</p> <p>„No recommendation can be made on the use of value clarification tools.”</p> <p>Agreed: 10, Disagreed: 0, Abstentions: 0</p> <p>Quality of the evidence: moderate quality</p>
<p>Comment on the recommendation:</p> <p>The recommendation refers to the comparison of health information or decision aids, which use explicit value clarification tools, with the health information that does not use these instruments.</p> <p>In this comparison no effect was shown in one study concerning the cognitive outcome <i>knowledge</i>. Two studies on the outcomes <i>comprehensibility / readability</i> also showed no effect.</p> <p>With regard to the affective outcome <i>acceptance / attractiveness</i>, a positive effect for the use of value clarification tools was shown in one out of three studies.</p> <p>One out of four studies concerning the additional outcome <i>decisional conflict</i> showed an effect (greater reduction of the decisional conflict) in favor of the information without a value clarification tool. In one out of six studies, which collected partial aspects of the <i>decisional conflict</i>, an effect for information without an value clarification tool was shown with regard to the aspect <i>effectivity of the decision</i>.</p>	

Summary of the findings

Characteristics of the included studies

For this comparison seven studies with a total of 1,247 participants were included (1, 3, 5-9). The studies were carried out in Canada (1, 7, 9), the USA (5, 8), the UK (3) and the Netherlands (6). Predominantly healthy test persons were included as well as in two studies patients of both sexes, who were about to make a health-relevant decision (8, 9).

In the included studies, explicit tools were investigated as an intervention to clarify the preferences in which information or content aspects are evaluated with regard to

their personal value. For this, stars were awarded (3), ranking lists set up (8), weighing pans or scales used (1, 6, 7).

Results for the relevant outcomes

For the outcomes knowledge, comprehensibility / readability and acceptance / attractiveness, no or no consistent effect could be shown. The same applied for the additional outcome decisional conflict.