

Discussion group feedback

1. Perceptions of the ICECAP measures by patients and decision-makers

Main areas of discussion

- What does ICECAP offer that existing measures do not?
- Is the ICECAP measure a substitute or complement for health status measures in economic evaluation?
- ICECAP measures will inevitably be compared to generic health status measures. The fact that the items are quite different is viewed positively by some and negatively by others.
- The measure fitting on a single page was viewed very positively.
- ICECAP measures may be useful with the move to a value-based pricing and a desire to build in different aspects of 'value' (rather than just health gain) to prices.
- The need to assess measurement properties of ICECAP relative to social care measures (e.g. ASCOT) as well as health measures (e.g. EQ-5D).

Action points

- Clarify use of ICECAP in the decision-making process (in particular the interpretation of changes in scores).
- Qualitative research looking at ICECAP performance in patient subgroups (including using proxies to complete and checking relevance of dimensions).
- Quantitative research of usage (e.g. are responses affected by setting, time point or respondent even if the underlying QOL of the patient has not changed?)
- Could bolt-on dimensions be used to capture particularly relevant issues to some patient groups (e.g. stigma for mental health patients)?
- Determine degree to which ICECAP measures are picking up capability vs. functioning, perhaps by using psychometric techniques to see how responses perform against other measures of capability and functioning.

2. Cross-cultural use and adaptation of the ICECAP measures

Main areas of discussion

- When should the ICECAP measures be used as they are, when should they be adapted and when should a new measure be developed from scratch?
- Issues to consider include the need for a new descriptive system vs. the need for a new valuation set.
- Where there are differences in descriptive systems and value sets there is an issue of comparability of the findings.

Action points

- Determine whether potential applications of the ICECAP measures call for:
 - Straightforward use
 - A new value set
 - Translation
 - Adaptation, but retaining core themes
 - A new set of core themes
 - A mixture of two or more of the above

3. The use of ICECAP measures in economic evaluation

Main areas of discussion

- The zero (no capability) to one (full capability) scale underpinning the ICECAP measures, and associated issues, including the possibility of states worse than death and a philosophical vs. preference-based value for dead state.
- The use of ICECAP measures in particular 'sectors' such as public health or care for older people.

Action points

- Determine whether people see no capabilities and death as equivalent.
- Comparison of measurement properties of ICECAP measures with other measures of capability and social care outcome measures.
- Develop methods to use ICECAP alongside other measures, or as the sole measure, in economic evaluation.