ABSTRACT

Title: Using a modified Delphi process to develop quality indicators for prostate cancer management

OBJECTIVE + BACKGROUND: The aim of this study was to achieve a consensus amongst an expert panel on what is considered good quality prostate cancer management. This has been conducted in order to measure data collected by the PCO-CRV Registry.

METHOD: The initial phase of the modified Delphi process involved a literature review, which synthesized all the most contemporary domestic and international guidelines. These indicators were refined to those which could be measured by the available dataset, as determined by PCOR-CRV. An online survey was created; an expert panel of 35 (including consumers, urologists, onconological and epidemiologists) used a Likert scale from 1-9 to rate the importance of each indicator. A supplementary document was simultaneously constructed to aid the participant. It includes information about sources, the level of evidence and how each indicator will be measured. A conference is being organized in 2017 to facilitate a face-to-face discussion between participants. They will be able to use this opportunity to re-evaluate their opinion in the light of how others have justified their vote. Subsequent surveys and web conferences will further evaluate the indicators' merits based on reliability, validity and feasibility.

RESULTS: This ongoing study will conclude when a consensus has been reached for approximately 20 indicators. Subsequently, data provided by PCO-CRV will be analysed and feedback, regarding each hospital's management of patients with prostate cancer, will be distributed.

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