

# Patient-centered measurement through patient-driven research priorities

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## Abstract:

A comprehensive approach is emphasized by patient-centered measurement (PCM), in which patient voices are represented across the spectrum of measurement activities and mirrored in the standardized use of patient-reported outcome and experience measures. Given the difficulties in regularly incorporating patient self-reports into clinical care decisions, the advancement of PCM science requires the opinions of all stakeholders in the healthcare system, particularly patients. The analysis we present here was designed to determine patient-driven research priorities for PCM science advancement. Results: We discovered that patients expressed a wish for PCM to be involved in healthcare decisions. Specifically, they expressed a desire for their personal healthcare needs and priorities to always be at the forefront of all healthcare interactions. By (1) strengthening the patient-provider relationship, (2) supporting patients' stories, (3) addressing inclusivity, (4) guaranteeing psychological safety, (5) improving healthcare services and systems to better meet patient needs, and (6) strengthening health care system accountability, the patients' comments brought to light intersecting priorities for research on advancing the science of PCM that would help transform care. In conclusion: Future research initiatives that are positioned to advance better health, better care, and better use of resources for both individuals and society as a whole are guided by these priorities.

**Keywords:** Patient-reported outcome measures, Patient-reported experience measures, Patient-centered measurement, Measurement, Research priorities, Patient engagement.

## Introduction

The impact of illness on an individual's health and quality of life (PROMs) and experiences of care (PREMs) can be measured using patient-reported outcome and experience measures (PROMs and PREMs). In order to gather assessments of people's health outcomes that are pertinent to their quality of life, such as their physical and mental health, including symptoms, functional status, and other facets of psychological, social, and spiritual well-being, PROMs are self-report tools (Greenhalgh, 2013).

Research on a wide range of medical conditions has made extensive use of PROMs, and there is evidence that they enhance clinical decision-making and patient-clinician communication. When results are applied to initiatives to enhance clinical outcomes, quality of life [9], healthcare utilization, and even survival, PROMs also show promise. PROMs are increasingly being gathered in clinical settings at the point of care, despite the fact that they have mostly been used in research. PREMs are questionnaires or self-report surveys that gauge how a patient feels about different aspects of the treatment and services they received. PREMs are usually organized around particular dimensions that are acknowledged as significant to patients and aim to document what happened to them from their point of view (Kotronoulas, 2014). Notwithstanding the potential advantages of PROMs and PREMs, there is still much to learn about the outcomes and

experiences that patients value most in order to guide the creation and application of these measures in various clinical, disease, and geographic contexts. Furthermore, logistical issues, measurement difficulties, technological obstacles, and a lack of emphasis on data use are some of the obstacles to regularly incorporating PROMS and PREMS into clinical care and healthcare service delivery. The International Society of Quality of Life has developed user guides and recommendations to address these issues, and implementation-specific conceptual models and frameworks (such as the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research and the Integrated Framework for Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services) have been used and tailored (Yang LY, 2018).

Our analysis, which focused on the qualitative information from the patient focus groups, aimed to determine patient-driven research priorities for furthering the science of PCM. In this paper, the term "patient" refers to both people who have first hand experience with a health issue and unpaid care givers, such as friends and family (Boyce MB, 2014).

#### **The Science of PCM:**

PROMs have been the main focus of PCM research agendas, which have been led by researchers and healthcare professionals. More diverse stakeholders have been included in some formal priority-setting initiatives. Patients' opinions regarding research priorities to advance the science of PCM have rarely been the focus of these efforts, despite the fact that some of them included patient perspectives. This is in contrast to the focus groups conducted throughout the province of British Columbia, Canada, which produced the findings that are presented here. Our findings were particularly noteworthy because the patients were able to express the significance of PCM's role in relation to an individual's health and medical care. In other words, the patients' comments recommended that research be prioritized in areas where PCM may revolutionize both the treatment of individual patients and the larger healthcare system (Noonan, 2017).

#### **The function of PCM:**

The proliferation of PROMs and PREMs research focused on developing specific health or experience outcomes, such as symptom severity, patient satisfaction, and quality of life, and assessing the effectiveness of PROMs and PREMs use on these outcomes contrasts with this focus on the function of PCM, including the ways in which PCM could influence a patient's care and the responsiveness of the healthcare system to their needs. In other words, researchers have concentrated on determining whether the use of particular PROMs or PREMs affects particular health or experience outcomes. Does using a pain PROM, for instance, help people feel less pain? According to our results, more research, including realist assessments, is necessary to determine how, for whom, and under what conditions PCM can be applied to guarantee that the needs of each patient are given priority in every medical interaction. How, for instance, does the use of a pain PROM affect discussions about pain with medical professionals, the examination of the multifaceted effects of pain that are significant to patients, or the presentation of different pain management strategies that patients find appealing? This is in line with a research focus on comprehending and elucidating how PCM influences the different aspects of care, as stated by Greenhalgh and colleagues (Greenhalgh, 2018).

#### **The patient-provider relationship for quality healthcare:**

However, our research's patients also went beyond the "how" to highlight the fundamentals of the patient-provider relationship for high-quality healthcare that is tailored to their specific needs. They promoted PCM that would strengthen this bond. This result would be consistent with studies that examine how PCM affects different facets of clinical care, including shared decision-making and communication. For instance, research indicates that PCM may improve symptom awareness, stimulate dialogue, and give patients the chance to go into further detail about their issues, all of which could improve patient-provider communication (Gibbons, 2021).

Additionally, a more comprehensive understanding of the patient's condition and experiences through PCM, better communication, and the provision of patient-specific information may all have an impact on the therapeutic relationship between the patient and the provider. Our results imply that these clinical care facets are significant research areas, but improving care via PCM could also be examined from the viewpoint of the patient, highlighting ideas like cultural safety, reciprocity, respect, trust, feeling heard, and partnership (Howell, 2020).

#### **The pragmatics of managing health:**

For patients and their families, the practicalities of managing health and illness can be enormous. It should come as no surprise that when the system worked for the patients in our study, they highly valued healthcare services. They desired PCM integration so that services would be more effective, efficient, culturally safe, and responsive to the needs of each patient. There are a number of obstacles and difficulties that prevent PCM from being integrated into current healthcare services. These include technological and logistical issues pertaining to staff productivity, time and resource needs, integration with current medical records, and procedures that turn data into clinically useful information (Greenhalgh, 2018).

Patient experiences may be enhanced by healthcare services and systems that are effective for employees, but this is not a given. Our result simply that it is necessary to concentrate on the effects of PCM implementation on patients in particular. Furthermore, the importance of integrated knowledge translation and participatory research principles—which involve all stakeholders, particularly patients, in the development and implementation of system storecord and make PCM actionable—is becoming increasingly acknowledged (Boyce, 2014).

### **Engaging patients:**

Involving patients is also essential for creating channels for explaining how PCM will be used, making sure they feel comfortable offering feedback that leads to systemic changes, and eventually boosting patient accountability. There is proof that making aggregate PROM data publicly available enhances the standard of patient care. Nevertheless, there is little evidence of the advantages of various reporting techniques from the viewpoint of the patient (Yang, 2018).

### **Recommendations:**

The results of the study highlight how crucial it is to give PCM research that attempts to improve both the general healthcare system and individual patient care top priority. The study also emphasizes how important the patient-provider relationship is to high-quality healthcare and the need for more research supporting PCM's use as a tool to improve trust, communication, and shared decision-making. As a potential tactic to offer significant insights into patients' health and quality of life, novel ways of fusing patient narratives with numerical data should be developed. This will help clinicians better understand individual experiences and strengthen therapeutic alliances. In order to make healthcare services more responsive and accountable, the study concludes by highlighting the need for research into inclusive PCM that takes into account the diversity of patient needs and experiences, especially those from equity-deserving groups, and to involve diverse patients in the design and implementation of PCM systems.

### **Conclusion:**

In Conclusion, there is great potential for reorienting healthcare and health systems around the priorities of individual patients through the transition from PROMs and PREMs to PCM. The study's findings on patient-driven priorities for improving PCM highlight patients' preferences for their healthcare needs and associated priorities, which they believe should always be at the forefront of all healthcare interactions. In order to genuinely advance better health, better care, and better use of resources for both individuals and society as a whole, future research endeavors that are based on patient perspectives will be guided by the priorities outlined in this study.

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