



QUICK TIPS FOR MEANINGFUL PATIENT INPUT IN ACE'S WORK

The Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) assesses the effectiveness, safety and value of new treatments (such as drugs, vaccines and medical devices) to inform funding decisions made by the Ministry of Health (MOH). Patients, carers and patient organisations can provide their lived experiences of medical conditions and treatments to include in ACE's technical evaluations. **Your input is important to us.**

Here are **8 quick tips** on dos and don'ts when you are providing patient input to ACE:

1



- ✓ Share both **positive and negative** experiences
- ✗ Do not only share negative experiences and concerns

Sharing a **range** of experiences of your condition and the benefits and disadvantages of your treatment can help MOH consider **all** aspects that are important to you when making funding decisions.

2

- ✓ Share your **personal** unique experiences
- ✗ Do not copy and paste information from published sources

Every person's experience of living with a condition and receiving treatment is different and we want to hear about **yours**.

You do not have to look for information from the internet, journal articles or newspapers. ACE already reviews all published evidence for each treatment that they evaluate. Your personal experience can help identify important issues about a condition or treatment that may be missing from the evidence.



3

- ✓ Share as many **details and examples** as you can
- ✗ Do not provide general information

Are your symptoms so unbearable that you have to miss work or school for two days every month? Do you have symptoms that impact your ability to go to school or have a social life?

Providing examples of how your condition has affected daily activities helps ACE understand your needs and experience better.

HOW DOES
DIABETES
AFFECT ME AND
MY FAMILY?



4

- ✓ Share how **living with the condition** affects you and the people around you
- ✗ Do not provide a medical description of the condition

Do you feel weak, moody or need a family member to care for you? Explaining the **physical, emotional, and social** impact of your condition can help ACE better understand what you and your loved ones are going through. You do not have to provide a medical description of the condition. ACE works with doctors to understand the condition, and how it is treated in Singapore.



5

- ✓ Share the **impact** of having (or not having) treatment
- ✗ Do not describe the treatment

Is your current treatment effective? How does it make life better for you? Is it convenient to take? Are you able to manage the side effects or costs? What would happen if you couldn't have this treatment?

Such examples can highlight whether your **needs** have been met and any **challenges** faced while receiving treatment for your condition.



6

- ✓ Include **numbers** to describe your experience
- ✗ Do not include general statistics about your condition or numbers from clinical trials

How long have you been taking treatment for your condition? How long is each treatment session? How many attacks or clinic visits did you have in the past year? How long does it take you to get dressed in the morning?

Numbers like these can help ACE better understand how a treatment might benefit you and indicate how **relevant** clinical trial results are to patients in Singapore.



7

- ✓ Share your **expectations** of the new treatment
- ✗ Do not hold back from sharing your views because you have not tried the new treatment

How different do you expect the new treatment that ACE is evaluating to be compared to your current treatment? How do you think it will help improve your condition? What do you hope the new treatment will allow you to do?

You can still provide useful views about the new treatment even if you haven't tried it before. Your views can help identify which treatment benefits are **important** to you and whether the new treatment can address any disadvantages with your current treatment.



8

- ✓ Share information that you **want** MOH to know
- ✗ Do not feel stressed about providing the perfect input

The effort you put in to share your experience is appreciated and every input is valuable to ACE and MOH. Your decision on whether to provide input and how much information to share is **respected**.

ACE will invite patient organisations and their members to provide input into different technical evaluations. Responses should be sent to **ACE_CEE@moh.gov.sg**.

Sources

1. Agency for Care Effectiveness, Ministry of Health, Singapore. Process and methods guide for patient involvement. January 2023.
2. Briggs L, Patient Voice Initiative. Dos and don'ts when making a PBAC Consumer Comment. July 2020.

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