AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

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Consumer information on cataract surgery

An environmental scan

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Introduction	4
This paper	4
Cataract surgery in Australia	5
Atlas data on cataract surgery	5
Review of consumer information on cataract	6
Methodology	6
Preliminary assessments of quality using DISCERN	8
Conclusion	15
Appendix 1	16
Appendix 2	30
References	39

Introduction

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) was established in 2006 to lead and coordinate national improvements in safety and quality in health care. Since that time the Commission has helped identify, raise awareness of and take action on key safety and quality issues within the healthcare system.

An important part of the Commission's work has been to explore the links between safety and quality and person-centred care, and support the consumer role in safety and quality. This focus is a core part of the Commission's strategic approach to safety and quality.

Partnering with consumers is integral to a number of the Commission's national frameworks including the Australian Safety and Quality Framework for Healthcare, the Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights and the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards.

In order for healthcare providers to partner with consumers in their own care they must work with patients, families, friends and other support people to understand and address the needs and preferences of the patient. Healthcare providers must treat patients holistically and comprehensively with dignity and respect, collaborating, and sharing decisions and responsibility for care.

For these kinds of partnerships to work well, information needs to be provided to consumers in a way that is easy to understand and use and that is clear and describes the options, risks and benefits of different treatment pathways. However, there is currently a vast amount of information available to consumers on health and health care that is extremely variable in quality.

The Commission is working to identify whether high-quality health information exists for some key safety and quality issues. This process involves identifying the information that is available, assessing the quality of the information, and determining whether any additional information or resources might be required to support consumer understanding of their healthcare options.^{*}

This paper

The first *Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation* (Atlas) identified substantial variation in cataract surgery across Australia. It was proposed that one of the contributing factors to this variation may have been consumers' understanding of the treatment options for cataracts, and that this understanding may have been influenced by the type and quality of consumer information resources available.

The Commission has undertaken an environmental scan to identify consumer information resources on cataracts. This report describes this work including data on variation in cataract surgery that was highlighted in the first Atlas, the methods used for identifying and assessing the quality of health information resources, and key findings of the review.

^{*} This review of consumer information was completed in July 2017. Details of the resources were accurate at that time but may have changed in the intervening period.

Cataract surgery in Australia

A cataract is the clouding of the eye's clear lens and is a very common cause of reduced vision. Among Australians aged 55 and over, cataract is the primary cause of visual impairment in 40% of cases. The two most common symptoms are reduced visual function and sensitivity to glare. The most common risk factor for cataracts is age. The risk of having cataracts is also increased by diabetes, smoking and exposure to ultraviolet light.^{1, 2}

The presence of cataract does not necessarily indicate the need for surgery. In the early stages, symptoms may improve with new glasses, magnifying lenses or brighter lighting. Surgery is indicated when reduced vision affects a person's daily functioning. However, the preferences of the consumer or surgeon may influence the decision on whether and when to perform surgery.¹

Cataract surgery is one of the most common operations performed in Australia and involves replacing the cloudy lens with a clear, permanent, artificial lens.¹

Atlas data on cataract surgery

The first Atlas reported on variation in cataract surgery for adults 40 years and over. The Atlas reported that in 2013-14:

- There were 160,489 MBS-funded services for cataract surgery, representing 1,436 services per 100,000 people aged 40 years and over
- The average number of services varied across states and territories, from 1,132 per 100,000 people aged 40 years and over in the Northern Territory, to 1,685 in Queensland
- After excluding the highest and lowest results, the cataract surgery rate across the 298 remaining local areas was 2.8 times higher in the highest local area compared to the lowest
- Rates of cataract surgery decrease, as remoteness increases
- Generally rates were lowest in areas of low socioeconomic status and increased in areas with higher socioeconomic status.¹

Some reasons proposed for this variation include:

- Differing access to and use of private health insurance. For example some populations such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have low rates of private health insurance and reduced access to private hospitals. In NSW, 80 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cataract surgery patients are public patients, compared with 28 per cent of non-Indigenous Australian patients
- 2. Availability of specialists in rural and remote locations
- 3. Government policies such as those where governments purchase the services of private providers in private hospitals for public patients.¹

The first Atlas made suggestions about where to focus efforts to identify and address unwarranted variation in cataract surgery. One of the recommendations was that the Commission 'undertakes a quality review of existing patient information about cataract surgery as part of developing supporting material for a Clinical Care Standard on cataract surgery'.¹ This environmental scan reports on this review.

Review of consumer information on cataract

Providing understandable and accessible health information can improve people's knowledge, understanding and recall about their health and care.³⁻⁵ High-quality health information enables shared decision making, supports informed choice about treatment options and can contribute to health literacy so that consumers can be active partners in their own care.⁵⁻⁷

For consumers with cataract, the availability of high-quality information about treatment options including their risks, benefits and likely outcomes is integral to support informed decision making about whether and when to have cataract surgery.

The following sections describe how the Commission identified, reviewed and assessed health information on cataracts.

Methodology

Several complementary strategies were used to identify consumer information about cataract surgery for this review. The review focused on consumer information about cataract surgery from Australian sources, supplemented by targeted exploration of resources from key leading international organisations.

An internet search using the search engine Google and internet browser Chrome was conducted between March and April 2017. Separate searches were performed with results limited to the first 20 websites identified (excluding advertisements and map results), for each of the terms:

- Patient information cataract surgery au
- Consumer information cataract surgery au
- Patient information cataract operation au
- Consumer information cataract operation au
- Question cataract surgery au
- Question cataract operation au
- Decision cataract surgery au
- Decision cataract operation au
- Options cataract surgery au
- Options cataract operation au

Leading condition-specific organisations and professional bodies in Australia, relevant to eye health and cataract surgery were also identified and searches undertaken for consumer information from their homepages. These organisations were:

- Royal Australasian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO)
- Australian Ophthalmic Nurses' Association (AONA)
- Australian Society of Ophthalmologists (ASO)
- The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)
- Australian College of Nursing (ACN)
- Optometry Australia
- Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA)
- Vision Australia
- Fred Hollows Foundation
- Vision 2020

Specific searches were also conducted for patient information on cataract surgery from the homepages of a range of key international organisations. These organisations were:

- Wikipedia (International)
- The King's Fund (England)
- Patient Voices (England)
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (United States)
- National Health Service (England)
- Ottawa Hospital Research Institute Patient Decision Aids (Canada)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (England)
- Royal College of Surgeons (England)
- Royal College of Ophthalmologists (England)

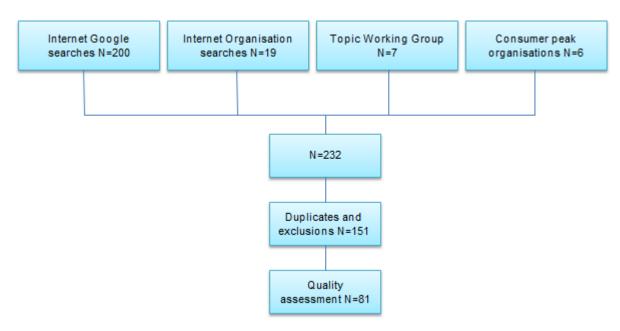
The Commission also asked nominees to the Cataract Surgery Topic Working Group to identify and submit any consumer information resources on cataract surgery which they knew were being used by health professionals or professional colleges. The national and state and territory peak consumer organisations were also contacted and invited to provide any materials relevant to the review.

The resources identified through each of the search strategies were initially assessed for relevance and those which did not align with the definition of consumer health information used for this review were discarded. Duplicated results were also excluded from further assessment.

This process identified a total of 81 discrete consumer information resources on cataract surgery for further quality assessment which are included in <u>Appendix 1</u>.

<u>Figure 1</u> illustrates the number of resources identified from each search strategy, together with exclusions and the final items retained for further quality assessment.

Figure 1: Search result refinement process



For each of the resources retained for further assessment, the following information was recorded where available:

- How it was identified
- Title of information
- Type of resource (consumer information about a single option, consumer information about multiple options, option grid, patient decision aid)
- Format (web-based, printable, audiovisual)
- Length
- Author
- URL
- Source type and country (e.g. government, hospital, day procedure service, professional organisation etc.)
- Year published.

Preliminary assessments of quality using DISCERN

The DISCERN instrument was chosen as a framework to assess and compare the quality of the large number of consumer resources on cataract surgery identified through the review.

The DISCERN instrument was the first standardised index for assessing the quality of consumer health information.⁸ It was developed as a validated tool to help users of consumer health information judge the quality of written information about treatment choices.⁹⁻¹¹ It is designed to assist in rating the quality of a publication in terms of its content and has a dual focus on the reliability and quality of information on treatment choices.^{11, 12}

The DISCERN instrument has a 5-point rating scale and asks a series of 15 questions to help determine the quality of the resource. The ratings for each of the DISCERN questions are aggregated into an overall rating of the resource.

<u>Appendix 2</u> includes a list of DISCERN questions, and the following sections describe how the 81 consumer resources on cataract surgery performed against the assessment.

Question 1: Are the aims clear?

Few of the resources explicitly stated what the information was about, what it would cover or who might find it useful. Such introductory content is important to orientate readers and allow them to make a judgement about whether the resource is relevant for them and their circumstances.¹² In its absence, consumers are left to infer the aims of the resource from its title and headings with a greater or lesser degree of accuracy. Even among the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, only four rated highly (rating of 4 or 5) on this particular item (Resources no. 64, 65, 67, 81) indicating that this is an area of weakness in the consumer information about cataract surgery currently available.

Question 2: Does it achieve its aims?

Given few resources explicitly stated the aim it was difficult to identify whether the resources achieved their goal. However, when allowing for the inference of aims from the title and headings of the publications, the majority of resources were rated moderately or highly (rating of 4 or 5) for this item. Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, all were rated highly on this particular item (Resources no. 30, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 76, 81).

Question 3: Is it relevant?

Judging the relevance of the resources included a consideration of whether the publication addressed questions that consumers might ask and whether the recommendations and suggestions about treatment choices were appropriate or realistic.¹² For consumers with

cataract, a publication's relevance will be influenced by individual circumstances and factors related to the content and presentation of the resource.

A large majority of the reviewed resources were rated moderately or highly (rating of 4 or 5) for this item, indicating that this is a strength of the consumer information on cataract surgery currently available. Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, all were rated highly on this particular item (Resources no. 30, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 76, 81).

Question 4: Is it clear what sources of information were used to compile the publication (other than the author or producer)?

Few of the resources included references to the sources of information used as evidence, or included a way to check the sources used such as a bibliography, reference list or the contact details of experts or organisations quoted.¹² This was true for the resources produced by individual health service organisations and the majority of those authored by professional bodies, condition-specific organisations and government agencies.

Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality only two, one by Wikipedia and the other by NHS RightCare, were rated highly (rating of 5) on this item (Resources no. 58, 81). The absence of references and other ways for consumers to check evidence sources is a limitation of the consumer information on cataract surgery currently available.

Question 5: Is it clear when the information used or reported in the publication was produced?

Assessing resources against this criterion included looking for dates of the main evidence sources, as well as the date of publication and any revisions to the resource itself.¹² Due to the low levels of referencing and evidence source identification across all of the resources, dates for the information used to compile the publications were also lacking. For a substantial minority there was no information provided, inferred or otherwise, by which a consumer could judge when a resource had been published.

Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality only three were rated highly (rating of 4 and 5) for this item (Resources no. 58, 64, 81), identifying a potential opportunity for improvement.

Question 6: Is it balanced and unbiased?

This assessment criterion required a consideration of whether the resource was written from a personal or objective point of view, if there was evidence that a range of sources were used to compile it, and if any external assessment of the publication had occurred.¹² While very few resources presented information about cataract surgery in an emotive or alarmist way, the substantial majority were not rated highly for this item as the source of their statements were unclear or unreferenced.

While some consumers would be likely to infer that information published by government agencies, condition-specific organisations and professional bodies would be more objective and unbiased, the absence of clear markers such as evidence sources may create unnecessary confusion.

Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, four were rated highly (4 and 5) for this particular item (Resources no. 58, 64, 65, 81).

Question 7: Does it provide details of additional sources of support or information?

Providing consumers with suggestions for further reading or details of other organisations able to give advice and information about treatment choices is an important element of highquality information.¹² Including these details in publications assists consumers to find any additional information they need to make decisions about treatment and care. For consumers with cataract this could include referral to leading eye-health organisations and links to professional bodies such as the Royal Australasian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists .

Of the 81 resources reviewed, 12 included this kind of information to guide consumers, indicating an opportunity for further improvement. The nine resources judged to be of higher quality performed moderately on this item with five rated highly (rating of 4 or 5) (Resources no. 58, 62, 63, 65, 67).

Question 8: Does it refer to areas of uncertainty?

Discussing gaps in knowledge or differences in expert opinion about treatment choices is a key way in which consumer information can acknowledge where there is uncertainty.¹² For consumers with cataract, this may include information about when the optimal time is to have cataract surgery, as well as what artificial lens is most appropriate, whether procedures (laser vision correction and cataract removal) can occur concurrently, as well as differences in outcomes after surgery.

Only 12 of the 81 resources reviewed referred to areas of uncertainty in a comprehensive way, showing room for increased attention to be paid to this element of high-quality consumer information. Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, seven were rated highly (rating of 4 or 5) for this item (Resources no. 64, 65, 58, 62, 63, 76, 81).

Question 9: Does it describe how each treatment works?

Providing detail about how a treatment acts on the body is a key piece of information consumers need to understand their treatment options, and make informed decisions.¹² For consumers with cataract this includes information about what happens to the eye during cataract surgery, including detail about how the procedure is carried out and what the patient can expect during that episode of their care.

A substantial proportion of reviewed resources performed well on this item, with 27 of the 81 publications rated highly (rating of 4 or 5). Eight of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality also achieved a high rating for this item (rating of 4 or 5), indicating that this is an area of strength across the range of consumer information about cataract surgery (Resources no. 64, 67, 30, 58, 62, 63, 76, 81).

Question 10: Does it describe the benefits of each treatment?

Information about the benefits of treatment can include reducing or eliminating symptoms, preventing recurrence of the condition and getting rid of the condition, both short-term and long-term.¹² For consumers with cataract this comprises information about how vision will be affected by cataract surgery and the type of artificial lens used, as well as whether cataracts can reform and if there is a need for further surgery.^{2, 13}

While there is a large body of evidence about the benefits of cataract surgery in terms of improving visual acuity and the capacity to perform activities of daily living¹⁴, the majority of the resources reviewed did not make the benefits clear. This may reflect an assumption on

the part of authors that consumers already know about the benefits of cataract surgery. Of the nine resources judged to be of higher quality, eight achieved ratings of 4 or 5 for this item (Resources no. 30, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 81).

Question 11: Does it describe the risks of each treatment?

Most treatments involve some potential risks or disadvantages. Consumer resources that provide realistic information about these risks can help people make decisions about treatment in a more considered way. Risks can include side effects, complications and adverse reactions to treatment, both short-term and long-term.¹² For consumers with cataract, understanding the risks of cataract surgery is important for decisions about whether and when to have surgery.

There was substantial variation in the extent to which the resources reviewed identified risks associated with cataract surgery, as well as in the level of detail they provided about frequency, severity and reversibility of the identified risks. This variability indicates another opportunity for quality improvement across the range of consumer resources on cataract surgery. However, of the nine resources assessed as higher quality, eight rated highly for this item (rating of 4 or 5) (Resources no. 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 76, 81).

Question 12: Does it describe what would happen if no treatment is used?

A high-quality consumer resource will include information about what would happen if the condition is left untreated. Understanding the outcome of having no treatment helps clarify what consumers can expect, and helps identify if not having any treatment is linked to an outcome that is important for them.¹²

For consumers with cataract, information about what would happen if they do not have cataract surgery or choose to delay surgery can help them make informed choices about what health care they receive and when. The progression of cataract and its impact on visual acuity is well understood², as are the strategies that consumers can use in the early stages of disease to manage symptoms such as new glasses, magnifying lenses or brighter lighting.¹ However, the majority of resources reviewed did not include a description of what would occur if cataract was left untreated. This was linked to the type of resource, with consumer information about multiple options being more likely to describe what would happen than consumer information about a single option. Six of the nine resources identified to be of higher quality were rated highly for this item (rating of 4 or 5) (Resources no. 30, 62, 63, 64, 67, 81).¹⁵⁻¹⁹

Question 13: Does it describe how the treatment choices affect overall quality of life?

Treatment choices may involve major changes in lifestyle or circumstances or have effects on family and friends that consumers need to know and consider before making a decision. A high quality resource will include information about the broader aspects of treatment choices on everyday life.¹²

For consumers with cataract these include short-term factors such as not being able to drive immediately after surgery. Some long-term considerations might include impact on a person's physical function, mental health, emotional well-being, safety, and overall quality of life.² Few of the resources reviewed included a clear reference to overall quality of life in the information they provided. This weakness was also observed in those resources judged to

be of higher quality with only three of the nine achieving a high rating of 4 and 5 for this item (Resources no. 30, 64, 81).

Question 14: Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice?

A high-quality resource will indicate that there is a choice about treatment, even if full details of the alternatives are not presented in the publication.¹² For people with cataract, the situation is somewhat different because surgery is the only way to effectively treat cataract and manage symptoms in later stages of the disease.²

For the purposes of this review and assessment against this item, the option to delay cataract surgery or elect not to have surgery at all are regarded as alternatives. The large majority of resources reviewed did not make it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice. As expected, consumer information about multiple treatment options as well as patient decision aids were more likely to be rated highly for this item (rating of 4 or 5) than consumer information about a single treatment option. Of the nine resources identified to be of higher quality, six performed well on this item, identifying an area where quality could be further enhanced (Resources no. 64, 65, 30, 63, 76, 81).

Question 15: Does it provide support for shared decision making?

Consumer resources can provide support for shared decision making by raising issues for consumers to discuss with clinicians about what are the best treatment choices for them. High quality consumer resources help consumers prepare for consultations with clinicians and to talk through issues that might affect people close to them regarding their care.¹²

For consumers with cataract, this could include issues such as treatment choices, risks and benefits, costs and outcomes. Only two of the consumer resources (Resource no. 64, 81), provided good support (rating of 4 or 5) for shared decision making. Providing support for consumers to share decisions about treatment choices is a gap in consumer information about cataract surgery currently available in Australia.

Overall rating

All consumer resources have deficiencies and it is unlikely that any single publication will rate highly for all of the items.¹² Consumer information about cataract surgery is no different, as the results of this review indicate.

While no single resource was rated highly across all of the criteria (rating of 4 or 5), nine resources were judged to be of higher quality. The individual ratings given for each of the 81 reviewed resources are included in <u>Appendix 2</u> and details of the nine higher quality resources are listed in <u>Table 1</u>.

Within this group are resources of different types and formats, authored by a range of organisations both within Australia and overseas. They provide a foundation of high quality information on which the Commission can draw when considering what kind of consumer resources could support a future clinical care standard on cataract surgery.

Resource No.	Overall DISCERN rating	Title	Туре	Format	Author	Source Type and country	Year Published
30	4	Cataracts and macular degeneration	Consumer information about multiple options	Printable	Macular Disease Foundation	Condition specific organisation in Australia	2016
58	4	Cataract	Consumer information about a single option	Web- based	Wikipedia	International web-based openly editable encyclopaedia	2017
62	4	Cataract surgery	Consumer information about multiple options	Web- based	NHS Choices	National Health Service in the United Kingdom	2016
63	4	Cataract service patient information: Cataract	Consumer information about multiple treatment options	Printable	Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	National Health Service in the United Kingdom	2014
64	5	Cataracts: Should I have surgery?	Patient decision aid	Web- based Printable	Healthwise	Not-for-profit provider of health information in the United States	2017
65	4	Understanding NICE guidance – Information for people who use NHS services: Treating cataracts by implanting multifocal lenses	Consumer information about a single treatment option	Printable	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)	National health guidance and quality organisation in the United Kingdom	2008
67	4	Understanding cataracts	Consumer information about a single treatment option	Printable	Royal College of Ophthalmologists and Royal National Institute of Blind People	Professional body and condition specific organisation in the United Kingdom	2013

Table 1: Highly rated consumer resources on cataract surgery

Resource No.	Overall DISCERN rating	Title	Туре	Format	Author	Source Type and country	Year Published
76	4	Cataract Surgery	Consumer information about multiple treatment options	Printable	Lions Eye Institute	Condition specific medical research institute in Australia	2014
81	5	Deciding what to do about cataracts	Consumer information about multiple treatment options	Printable	NHS RightCare	National Health Service in the United Kingdom	2017

Conclusion

For consumers with cataract, accessing high-quality information about cataract surgery can influence their expectations and preferences about treatment. The Commission has a role in supporting both access to and the use of high-quality information as a means of empowering consumers to work in partnership with their healthcare provider, and share decisions about health care. It may also help to reduce unwarranted variation in the treatment of some conditions.

There is a large amount of information available to consumers about cataract surgery in Australia, however this information varies substantially in terms of its quality. This review suggests that the majority of consumer resources on cataract surgery have been developed with the aim of meeting the local needs of individual health service organisations, or professions, and may not be considered high-quality.

Reviewing consumer health information resources on cataract surgery has identified a number of opportunities to improve quality within individual resources including by better articulating aims, demonstrating objectivity, linking statements about treatment choices with evidence sources, considering the effect of treatment choices on overall quality of life, and improving support for shared decision making.

This review has, however, identified nine higher-quality resources that provide comprehensive information about risks, benefits, and options related to cataract surgery. Although none of these nine resources meets all criteria to the highest rating, overall they provide a reasonable basis to inform consumers about their options for cataract surgery.

Consequently, rather that developing a new resource the Commission can best support consumers' need to access to high-quality information about cataract surgery by directing consumers to the higher-quality resources that have been identified through this review.

Appendix 1

Consumer information resources on cataract surgery

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
1	Cataract Frequently Asked Questions	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	B PI multiple options (surgery & no surgery)	Web	1 web page with collapsed content	Cataract Care Centre http://www.cataractcare .com.au/faq	DPS VIC Australia	2017 Website ©
2	After cataract surgery: a post- surgical guide	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single option (surgery)	Web	1 web page	Vision Eye Institute http://www.visioneyeins titute.com.au/article/cat aract-surgery-post- surgical-guide/	DPS group NSW, QLD , Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
3	Patient Info Cataract	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	B PI multiple options (surgery & delay surgery)	Web	1 web page	Southern Opthalmology <u>http://www.southernop</u> <u>hthalmology.com.au/ca</u> <u>taract.html</u>	DPS group NSW Australia	unknown
4	Cataract(s)	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	B PI multiple options (surgery & delay surgery)	Printable PDF	6 printed pages	Eye Surgery Associates <u>http://www.eyesurgery.</u> <u>com.au/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2013/0</u> <u>3/Services-Cataract-</u> <u>Patient-Information-</u> <u>2013.pdf</u>	DPS group Vic Australia	unknown pdf © 2007-13
5	Cataract Surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	B PI multiple options (surgery & no surgery)	Web	1 web page and video	Lasersight http://www.lasik.com.a u/eye- treatment/cataract- surgery/	DPS group QLD, Vic, NSW, Tas, WA Australia	2015 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
6	Cataracts	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single option	Web	1 web page	Better Health Channel https://www.betterhealt h.vic.gov.au/health/con ditionsandtreatments/c ataracts	Vic gov. Australia	2014
7	Cataracts	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	B PI multiple treatment options (surgery & delay surgery)	Web	1 web page	Healthdirect https://www.healthdirec t.gov.au/cataracts	Aus. gov. Australia	2015
8	Can I help my healing after Cataract Surgery – Restrictions after Cataract Eye Surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Medownick Laser Clinic http://www.medownickl asereyesurgery.com.au /cataract-surgery/can-i- help-my-healing- restrictions-after- cataract-surgery/	DPS Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
9	Cataract surgery consent form	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Printable	3 printable pages	QLD Health https://www.health.qld. gov.au/ data/assets/p df_file/0020/152372/op hthalmology_01.pdf	Qld gov. Australia	2011
10	Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Manningham Day Procedure Centre http://www.mdpc.com.a u/laser-assisted- cataract-surgery/	DPS Vic Australia	2017 Website ©
11	Cataract surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Healthy WA http://healthywa.wa.gov .au/Articles/A_E/Catara ct-surgery	WA gov. Australia	Unknown

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
12	Cataract Surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Central Sydney Eye Surgeons http://www.centralsydn eyeye.com.au/cataract- surgery/	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
13	Cataract Surgery – A Guide For Patients	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Printable	15 brochure pages	Sydney Cornea Clinic http://www.corneaclinic .com.au/downloads/Cat aract_Brochure_with_b leeds.pdf	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
14	Cataract Surgery	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI multiple treatment options	Printable	4 printable pages	Northern Sydney Cataract Retina Glaucoma <u>http://www.northernsyd</u> <u>neycataract.com.au/wp</u> <u>-</u> <u>content/uploads/2015/0</u> <u>9/Cataract-Surgery-</u> <u>Information-sheet.pdf</u>	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
15	Cataract	Google search 1: Patient information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Nepean Valley Eye Surgeons http://www.nepeanvalle yeyesurgeons.com.au/ patient-info/conditions- procedures/cataract/	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
16	Cataract Surgery – Post Operative Advice	Google search 2: Consumer information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Bunbury Day Surgery http://bunburydaysurge ry.com.au/discharge- instructions-cataract- surgery/	DPS WA Australia	2017 Website ©
17	Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery	Google search 2: Consumer information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Orange Surgery Centre https://www.orangesur gerycentre.com.au/cata ract-laser	DPS NSW Australia	2012 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
18	Does Medicare cover the cost of laser cataract surgery	Google search 2: Consumer information cataract surgery au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	The Naked Eye http://www.thenakedey ebook.com/blog/does- medicare-cover-the- cost-of-laser-cataract- surgery	Website affiliated with two Australian surgeons/ professors	2015
19	Cataract FAQs	Google search 3: Patient information cataract operation au	B PI multiple treatment option	Web	1 web page	Vision Eye Institute http://www.visioneyeins titute.com.au/cataract- surgery/cataract- surgery/faqs/	DPS group NSW, QLD, Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
20	Cataracts	Google search 3: Patient information cataract operation au	A PI single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Optometry Australia http://www.optometry.o rg.au/your-eyes/your- eye-health/eye- diseases/cataract.aspx	Professional organisation Australia	2017 Website ©
21	Cataract	Google search 3: Patient information cataract operation au	B PI multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Specialist Eye Centre http://www.specialistey ecentre.com.au/patient -information/eye- conditions- surgery/cataract/	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
22	Cataract surgery (phacoemulsification)	Google search 4: Consumer information cataract operation au	B PI multiple treatment options	Web and printable	1 web page 3 printable pages	Better Health Channel https://www.betterhealt h.vic.gov.au/health/sur gicalbrochures/cataract -surgery- phacoemulsification file://central.health/dfsu serenv/Users/User_06/ SBRONW/Downloads/ OP01lite_au.pdf	Vic gov. Australia	2015

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
23	Cataract Surgery – Frequently Asked Questions	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Adelaide Eye & Laser Centre <u>http://www.aelc.com.au</u> /index.php/aelc/catarac t- surgery/category/frequ ently-asked-questions	DPS SA Australia	2017 Website ©
24	Cataract surgery	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Healthdirect https://www.healthdirec t.gov.au/cataract- surgery	Aus gov. Australia	2016
25	Cataract Surgery	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page and videos	Forest Eye Surgery http://www.foresteyesur gery.com.au/cataract- surgery.php	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
26	Cataract Surgery	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	A single treatment options	Web	1 web page	Australian Institute of Eye Surgery http://www.aies.com.au /cataract-eye-surgery/	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
27	Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	A single treatment options	Web	1 web page	Sydney Eye Clinic http://www.eye.net.au/f aqs.aspx	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
28	Cataracts FAQs	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Metwest Eye Centre <u>http://www.metwesteye</u> <u>centre.com.au/frequent</u> <u>ly-asked-questions-by-</u> <u>category.php?faq_type</u> <u>id=2</u>	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
29	Laser Eye Surgery Frequently Asked Questions	Google search 5: Question cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	The Cataract Clinic http://www.thecataractc linic.com.au/cataract- surgery-faqs/	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
30	Cataracts and macular degeneration	Google search 6: Question cataract operation au	B multiple treatment options	Printable pdf	4 printable pages	Macular Disease Foundation Australia http://www.mdfoundatio n.com.au/resources/M DFA_Cataracts- MD_Factsheet_web.pd <u>f</u>	Disease Specific Organisation Australia	2016
31	Spotlight on: Cataract surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Vision Eye Institute http://www.visioneyeins titute.com.au/cataract- surgery/cataract- surgery/	DPS group NSW, Qld, Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
32	Cataract Surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	16 linked web pages from a starting menu	Medownick Laser Clinic http://www.medownickl asereyesurgery.com.au /cataract-surgery/	DPS Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
33	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Moreton Eye Group http://moretoneye.com. au/services/cataract	DPS group Qld Australia	2013 Website ©
34	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Eye Surgeons SA http://www.eyesurgeon ssa.com.au/eye- conditions/cataract	DPS SA Australia	2014 Website ©
35	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Darling Downs Eye http://www.darlingdown seye.com.au/services- plus- conditions/cataract/	DPS Qld Australia	2017 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
36	Cataract Surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Inner West Eye Surgeons http://www.innerwestey esurgeons.com.au/proc edures/cataract- surgery/	DPS NSW Australia	2017 Website ©
37	Cataract Surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page with collapsible menus	Eyescan http://www.eyescan.co m.au/cataract- surgery.html	DPS Vic Australia	Unknown
38	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	South Western Eye Care http://www.southwester neyecare.com.au/catar act-surgery- sydney.html	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
39	Cataract Surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page with collapsible menus	Victorian Eye Surgeons http://www.victorianeye .com.au/consultations/c ataract-surgery/	DPS Vic Australia	2014 Website ©
40	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Canberra Eye Hospital http://www.canberraey ehospital.com.au/condi tions/cataract/	DPS ACT Australia	2017 Website ©
41	Back to basics – all about cataract surgery	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Sydney Opthalmic Specialists http://sosdoctors.com.a u/back-to-basics-all- about-cataract-surgery/	DPS NSW Australia	2017

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
42	Cataract	Google search 7: Decision cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Visionary Eye Specialists http://www.visionaryey especialists.com.au/cat aract/	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
43	Laser Cataract Surgery and Phacoemulsification Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Eye Surgeons SA http://www.eyesurgeon ssa.com.au/services/su rgical-services/18- laser-cataract-surgery- early-to-advanced- cases	DPS SA Australia	2014 Website ©
44	Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Precision Eye Clinic <u>http://precisioneyeclinic</u> <u>.com.au/eye-</u> <u>treatments-cataract-</u> <u>and-retinal/cataract-</u> <u>surgery/</u>	DPS Tas Australia	2017 Website ©
45	Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Newcastle Eye Centre http://www.neweye.co m.au/service/cataract- surgery/	DPS NSW Australia	2016 Website ©
46	Cataracts	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Dr Anne Malatt Eye Surgeon http://www.doctoranne malatt.com.au/cataract S	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
47	Cataracts	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	Murdoch Eye Centre http://www.murdocheye .com.au/cataracts/	DPS WA Australia	2014 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
48	Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Doncaster Eye Centre http://www.doncasterey ecentre.com.au/clinical -information/cataract- surgery/	DPS VIC Australia	2017 Website ©
49	Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	HCF https://www.uat2.hcf.co m.au/members/access- medical- resources/hospital- procedure- guides/cataract-surgery	Private Health Insurer Australia	2017 Website ©
50	Cataract Surgery	Google search 8: Decision cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Dr Peter Chau Eye Surgeon http://drpeterchau.com. au/cataract_surgery.ht ml	DPS Vic Australia	Unknown
51	Cataract surgery cost	Google search 9: Options cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Vision Eye Institute http://www.visioneyeins titute.com.au/cataract- surgery/cataract- surgery/cataract- surgery-cost/	DPS group NSW, Qld, Vic Australia	2016 Website ©
52	Cataract Surgery Treatment Options in Melbourne	Google search 9: Options cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	NewVision Clinics http://www.newvisionclinics.com.au/treatment- options/about-cataract- surgery/	DPS group Vic Australia	2014 Website ©

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
53	Cataract Surgery	Google search 9: Options cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web and printable pdf	1 web page 2 printable pages	PersonalEYES http://www.personaleye s.com.au/cataracts/cat aract-surgery/ http://personaleyes.co m.au/pdf/A4%20factsh eet%20laser%20catara ct.pdf	DPS group NSW Australia	2016 Website ©
54	Cataract Surgery Cost	Google search 9: Options cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	All About Vision http://www.allaboutvisio n.com/conditions/catar act-surgery-cost.htm	Disease specific organisation Australia (advertising present)	2016
55	Cataract Surgery: Cataracts Treatment	Google search 9: Options cataract surgery au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	PersonalEYES http://www.personaleye s.com.au/cataracts/	DPS group NSW Australia	2016 Website ©
56	Cataract Surgery	Google search 10: Options cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Insight Eye Clinic https://insighteye.com. au/cataract-surgery/	DPS WA Australia	2016 Website ©
57	Cataracts	Google search 10: Options cataract operation au	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Eye and Laser Surgeons http://www.eyeandlaser .com.au/conditions/cat aract/	DPS NSW Australia	Unknown
58	Cataract	Wikipedia	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org /wiki/Cataract	Web-based, openly editable encyclopedia	2017
59	Cataract Surgery	Wikipedia	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org /wiki/Cataract_surgery	Web-based, openly editable encyclopedia	2017

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
60	What Is a Cataract?	AHRQ search	A single treatment option	Web	1 web page	AHRQ https://archive.ahrq.gov /patients- consumers/prevention/ understanding/bodysys /edbody7.html	US national healthcare safety and quality organisation	2007
61	Age-related cataracts	NHS search	B multiple treatment options	Web	1 web page	NHS Choices http://www.nhs.uk/Con ditions/Cataracts-age- related/Pages/Introduct ion.aspx	UK national health service	2016
62	Cataract surgery	Google search	B multiple treatment options	Web	7 linked web pages	NHS Choices http://www.nhs.uk/Con ditions/Cataract- surgery/Pages/Introduc tion.aspx	UK national health service	2016
63	Cataract service patient information: Cataract	Google search	B multiple treatment options	Printable	13 printable pages	Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust <u>http://www.moorfields.n</u> <u>hs.uk/sites/default/files/</u> <u>cataract-service-</u> <u>patient-information.pdf</u>	UK national health service	2014
64	Cataracts: Should I have surgery?	OHRI search	PDA	Web, printable	6 linked webpages; 9 printed pages	Healthwise https://decisionaid.ohri. ca/AZsumm.php?ID=1 165	US not-for-profit provider of health information, decision support tools, behavior change assistance etc	2017
65	Understanding NICE guidance - Information for people who use NHS services: Treating cataracts by implanting multifocal lenses	NICE search	PI about a single treatment option	Web, printable	4 printed pages	NICE https://www.nice.org.uk /guidance/ipg264/resou rces/treating-cataracts- by-implanting- multifocal-lenses- 310737997	UK national health guidance and quality organisation	2008

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
66	Get Well Soon: Helping you to make a speedy recovery after cataract surgery	RCS search	PI about a single treatment option	printable	16 printed pages	The Royal College of Surgeons of England <u>file://central.health/dfsu</u> <u>serenv/Users/User_06/</u> <u>SBRONW/Downloads/</u> <u>Cataract%20Surgery%</u> <u>20(1).pdf</u>	UK professional body	2014
67	Understanding cataracts	RCOpth search	PI about a single treatment option	printable	24 printed pages	RCOpth and Royal National Institute of Blind People <u>https://www.rcophth.ac.</u> <u>uk/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2015/0</u> <u>2/RCOphth-RNIB-</u> <u>Understanding-</u> <u>Cataracts-2013.pdf</u>	UK professional body and disease specific organisation	2013
68	Cataract: Specific Questions Related to Cataract Surgery	RCOpth search	PI about a single treatment options	web	1 web page	RCOpth https://www.rcophth.ac. uk/patients/cataract/	UK professional body	Unknown
69	Find Out More About Cataracts	RANZCO search	PI about a single treatment option	web	1 web page	RANZCO https://ranzco.edu/find- out-more- about/cataracts	AU professional body	2016 Website ©
70	Cataract Surgery Online Patient Advisory	RANZCO search	PI about a single treatment option	printable	1 printed page	RANZCO https://ranzco.edu/Articl eDocuments/233/opa_r anzco_cataract.pdf.asp x?Embed=Y	AU professional body	2012
71	Cataracts	ASO search	PI about multiple treatment options	web	1 web page	Health& https://healthand.com/a u/topic/general- report/cataracts	AU health management portal	2017

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
72	Cataracts	Optometry Australia search	PI about a single treatment option	web	1 web page	OA http://www.optometry.o rg.au/your-eyes/your- eye-health/eye- diseases/cataract/	AU professional body	2017 Website ©
73	Cataract	Centre for Eye Research search	PI about a single treatment option	web	1 web page	CERA http://www.cera.org.au/ community/your-eye- health/cataract/	AU eye research organisation	2014
74	Cataracts	Vision Australia search	PI about a single treatment option	web	1 web page	Vision Australia https://www.visionaustr alia.org/learn- more/eye- conditions/cataracts	AU disease specific organisation	Unknown
75	Cataracts in infancy and childhood	Vision Australia search	PI about a single treatment option	web	1 web page	Vision Australia https://www.visionaustr alia.org/learn- more/eye- conditions/cataracts-in- infancy-and-childhood	AU disease specific organisation	Unknown
76	Cataract Surgery	Consumer peak organisation	PI about multiple treatment options	printable	16 printable pages	Lions Eye Institute https://www.lei.org.au/ wp- content/uploads/2013/0 8/5751-LEI Cataract- Surgery-Brochure- .FINAL .A5 5 OUTPU T-1.pdf	AU disease specific medical research institute	2014
77	Cataract Surgery	Topic Working Group	PI about a single treatment option	printable	5 printable pages	Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital	NSW Hospitals	2016

Resource No.	Title	Search strategy	Туре	Format	Length	Author and URL	Source type and country	Year published
78	Trachoma, Cataract, Diabetes and Your Eyes	Topic Working Group	PI about a single treatment option	Web printable	39 printable pages	International Centre for Eyecare Education http://www.healthinfone t.ecu.edu.au/uploads/re sources/16517_iceeph 20090727_i-see-for- culture_tcd-and-your- eyes_april-2011.pdf	AU disease specific medical research institute	2009
79	Big City Trip	Topic Working Group	PI about a single treatment option	Audio- visual	11mins	Sight for all http://sightforall.org/me dia-centre/videos OR https://vimeo.com/6761 6655	AU disease specific organisation	2013
80	Eyes on the Prize	Topic Working Group	PI about a single treatment option	Audio- visual	18mins	Fred Hollows Foundation https://vimeo.com/1128 97554 OR http://www.healthinfone t.ecu.edu.au/key- resources/promotion- resources?lid=29885	AU disease specific organisation	2015
81	Deciding what to do about cataracts	NHS RightCare	PI about multiple treatment options	Web printable	5 printable pages	NHS RightCare file://central.health/dfsu serenv/Users/User 06/ SBRONW/Downloads/ SDM+- +Cataracts+updated+J anuary+2017%20(1).pd f	UK national health service	2017

Appendix 2

DISCERN assessment results

A rating scale of 1-5 (no to yes) is used for each DISCERN criteria. More information about this rating scale is included after the table.

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	ls it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
1	В	3	4	4	1	2	2	1	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
2	A	5	4	4	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
3	В	2	3	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	1	3	2	3	1	2
4	В	2	3	3	1	2	2	4	2	3	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
5	В	2	4	4	1	2	2	1	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	3
6	А	2	3	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	ls it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
7	В	2	3	3	4	4	4	5	2	3	1	1	2	1	2	1	3
8	A	3	4	4	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
9	A	3	4	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	5	2	1	1	2	3
10	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	4	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
11	A	2	3	3	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
12	A	2	3	4	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	3	2	1	3	1	2
13	A	3	4	4	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	3	3	1	1	1	2
14	В	2	3	4	1	1	2	1	3	3	3	3	2	1	4	1	3
15	A	2	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
16	A	3	4	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
17	A	2	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
18	A	3	3	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
19	В	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	1	3	1	2
20	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
21	В	3	4	4	1	2	2	1	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	3
22	В	3	4	4	2	3	3	1	2	4	4	4	3	2	4	3	3
23	A	4	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	2
24	A	2	3	4	3	4	4	4	2	3	2	4	1	1	1	2	3
25	В	2	4	4	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	2	4	4	4	2	3
26	A	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
27	A	2	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	2
28	A	4	4	4	1	2	2	1	3	4	4	1	2	1	2	1	2
29	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	2
30	В	2	4	4	1	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	4
31	A	3	3	4	1	2	2	1	1	4	4	1	1	4	1	1	2
32	A	3	3	4	1	2	2	1	2	4	4	4	1	3	1	1	3
33	В	2	3	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	2
34	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	1	2
35	В	2	3	4	1	2	2	1	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	1	3
36	A	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	2

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
37	В	2	3	4	1	1	2	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	1	3
38	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
39	В	2	4	4	1	2	2	1	3	4	3	4	3	2	3	1	3
40	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
41	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	3	4	2	1	3	2	2	1	2
42	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	3	1	2	1	1	2
43	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
44	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	4	2	4	2	3	1	1	1	1	2
45	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	4	4	1	1	3	3	1	2
46	В	2	4	4	1	1	2	1	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	1	3

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	ls it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
47	В	2	4	4	1	2	2	1	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	1	3
48	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	4	4	3	1	2	1	1	2
49	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	4	1	1	3	1	3	2	2
50	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	4	4	1	1	2	1	2	2
51	A	3	2	3	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
52	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	4	2	1	2	2	4	1	2
53	A	2	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	4	3	1	1	1	2	1	2
54	A	2	4	3	3	2	3	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
55	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	4	1	1	1	1	1	2
56	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	2	1	2

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
57	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	3	4	4	2	2	3	2	1	2
58	A	2	4	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	1	4
59	A	2	4	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	2	4	1	2	1	1	3
60	A	2	3	3	1	4	3	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
61	В	2	3	3	1	3	3	5	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	3
62	В	3	4	5	1	3	3	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4	3	4
63	В	3	4	5	1	3	3	4	5	5	4	5	5	3	5	3	4
64	D	5	5	5	3	4	4	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
65	A	5	5	5	2	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	1	2	1	3	4
66	A	5	5	5	1	3	3	5	4	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	3

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	Is it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported in the publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
67	A	4	4	5	1	3	3	5	3	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	4
68	A	2	3	3	2	1	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	2
69	A	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	1	2	3	2
70	A	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	1	2	3	3
71	В	3	4	4	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	2	3
72	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	1	2
73	A	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
74	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	2
75	A	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	2
76	В	2	4	4	1	3	3	2	5	4	2	5	2	2	4	2	4

No.	Type of resource A: consumer information single option; B: consumer information multiple options C: option grid D: patient decision aid	Are the aims clear? (1-5)	Does it achieve its aims? (1-5)	ls it relevant? (1-5)	Is it clear what sources of info were used to complete the publication? (1-5)	Is it clear when the info used or reported publication was produced? (1-5)	Is it balanced and unbiased? (1-5)	Does it provide details of additional sources of support or info? (1-5)	Does it refer to areas of uncertainty? (1-5)	Does it describe how each treatment works? (1-5)	Does it describe the benefits of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe the risks of each treatment? (1-5)	Does it describe what would happen if no treatment was used? (1-5)	Does it describe how treatment choices affect overall quality of life? (1-5)	Is it clear that there may be more than one possible treatment choice? (1-5)	Does it provide support for shared decision making? (1-5)	Based on the answers to all of the questions, rate the overall quality of the publication as a source of info about treatment choices? (1-5)
77	A	2	3	4	1	4	3	2	2	3	2	4	2	1	1	1	3
78	A	2	3	3	2	4	3	1	1	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	3
79	A	3	3	4	1	3	2	1	2	4	4	1	2	3	2	2	3
80	A	2	3	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	1	1	2
81	В	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	5

Each DISCERN question is rated on a 5-point scale ranging from no to yes. The rating scale is designed to help identify whether the quality criterion in question is present or has been met by the publication. General guidelines are as follows:

- 5 should be given if the answer to the question is a definite 'yes' the quality criterion has been completely fulfilled
- Partially (2-4) should be given if it is felt the publication being considered meets the criterion in question to some extent. How high or low the 'partial' rating is will depends on judgements about the extent of these shortcomings
- 1 should be given if the answer to the question is a definite 'no' the quality criterion has not been fulfilled at all.

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