

# Risk Assessment And Communication

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## CME Test Questions

1. When the FDA states that a drug is “safe and effective,” the decision is based on the assessment that:
  - a. No serious adverse effects have been seen in clinical trials.
  - b. Benefits for the disease for which the drug is approved outweigh the risks.
  - c. Risks for each individual patient are the same as risks for the population as a whole.
  - d. No post-marketing surveillance is needed.
  
2. When a drug is approved by the FDA to treat a certain disease, this means:
  - a. It will have an effect in all patients with that disease.
  - b. It will have an effect in at least some patients with that disease.
  - c. It will have an effect in at least 50% of patients to whom it is given.
  - d. It will have an effect in at least 85% of patients to whom it is given.
  
3. Regarding conversations with patients about risk, which of the following is correct?
  - a. Individualized risk information is usually less useful to patients than population-level risk information.
  - b. Varying levels of numeracy mean that different patients will benefit from different ways of explaining risk.
  - c. Discussions of risk should be avoided with patients who are fearful.
  - d. The judgment as to whether the benefits of a treatment outweigh the risks should be made only by the physician.

4. Regarding the ways in which patients use risk information, which of the following is correct?
  - a. If a risk seems minor to a physician, it can be assumed that it is unimportant to the patient, as well.
  - b. When patients are concerned about specific risks, they almost always volunteer that information.
  - c. Patients rarely consider risk when deciding whether or not to accept a treatment.
  - d. A patient's understanding about risk can influence his or her adherence to medication.
  
5. The "relative risk" of a disease or an event can be described as:
  - a. Risk in a population exposed to a given risk factor, minus the risk in a similar, unexposed population.
  - b. Risk in a population exposed to a given risk factor, divided by risk in a similar, unexposed population.
  - c. Risk in a group of patients exposed to a given risk factor, divided by risk in the population as a whole.
  - d. The percentage of people who experienced the disease or event after being exposed to a given risk factor.
  
6. The "attributable risk" of a disease or an event can be described as:
  - a. Risk in a population exposed to a given risk factor, minus the risk in a similar, unexposed population.
  - b. Risk in a population exposed to a given risk factor, divided by risk in a similar, unexposed population.
  - c. Risk in a group of patients exposed to a given risk factor, divided by risk in the population as a whole.
  - d. The percentage of people who experienced the disease or event after being exposed to a given risk factor.
  
7. You hear on the news that a new study shows that people who eat a certain food have "double the relative risk" of contracting a disease. To prepare for patients' questions, you should find out:
  - a. What population was studied
  - b. Whether the food has been proven to cause the disease
  - c. The level of risk in patients who do not eat the food
  - d. a and c only
  - e. All of the above
  
8. Number needed to treat:
  - a. Depends on the population being studied
  - b. Is a characteristic of a drug, so it is the same for all populations
  - c. Is the number of patients who can receive a drug before an adverse event occurs
  - d. Describes the size of the patient population in a clinical trial

9. Ways to improve communication with all patients about risk include:
  - a. Always offer details about relative risk, absolute risk, and number needed to treat.
  - b. Use only diagrams, avoiding actual numbers.
  - c. Avoid discussing the differences among patient populations.
  - d. Ask how important the patient considers a given outcome or drug side effect.
  
10. After explaining risk to a patient, which of the following is the most appropriate way to assess the patient's understanding?
  - a. Ask the patient to repeat the discussion in his or her own words.
  - b. Ask the patient if he or she understood.
  - c. Ask the patient if he or she has any questions.
  - d. Look to see if the patient appears confused.

## CME Evaluation

### Risk Assessment And Communication

1. Overall, how do you rate the concept of CME presented on the Discovery Health Channel?

- Excellent                       Good                       Fair                       Poor

2. Was the topic relevant to your needs and interests?

- Yes                       No

3. Was the information presented useful in your practice?

- Yes                       No

4. Were the course objectives met?

- Yes                       No

5. Did you find the information presented on the program to be fair, balanced, and free of commercial bias?

- Yes                       No

6. If no, please state reasons:

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7. Have you participated in other Discovery Health CME programs?

- Yes                       No

8. Are you interested in participating in future Discovery Health CME programs?

- Not at all                       Somewhat                       Very                       Extremely

9. Please list topics and/or therapeutic categories you would be interested in seeing on future Discovery Health CME programs:

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10. Please tell us how you found out about Discovery Health CME.

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