

Introduction to Patient Engagement

Section 2.1



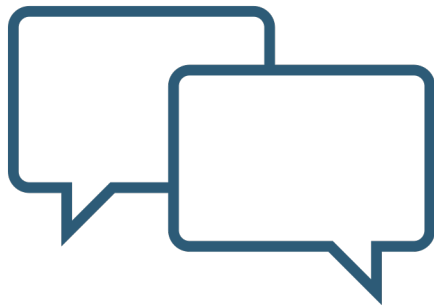
What is Patient Engagement?

Patient engagement refers to the relationship and interactions between patients and the healthcare system (doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, dietitians, health educators, researchers, etc.).



Examples of Patient Engagement

Examples of patient engagement in healthcare on an individual level include (but are not limited to):



- Engaging in discussion and collaborative decision-making with your health care team and taking an active role in your management and treatment
- Participating in health education programs or support groups
- Being involved in wellness groups or health organizations, coalitions, or advocacy groups

How do you define research?

When you hear the word “research”, you might think of a laboratory, scientists, or work done at a university. You might also think of words like:

- experiment
- investigate
- test
- study

But research can include so much more!

You most likely do research everyday, but you probably just don't call it that (ex: Google search, asking questions to make informed decisions, etc.)



What is research?

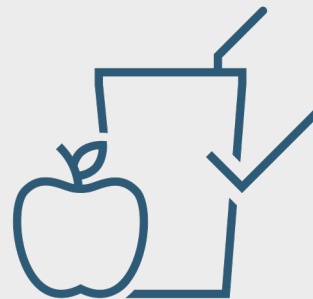
Research is the process of having questions and seeking answers by investigating the available information in order to make a decision.



What is health research?

- Health is something that is relevant to everyone. Health research helps find answers to questions about health that allow us to make better decisions in how we prevent and treat health conditions.
- Health research explores our current understanding or seeks to discover new knowledge regarding health conditions such as diabetes.

For health research to be most useful in addressing real-world problems, input and participation from patients, caregivers, providers, health educators, etc. is needed!



So, what makes “good health research”?

Good health research is:

- Relevant – it answers the health questions that are important to patients
- High quality – it follows the standards and methods that provide trustworthy information
- Safe – it puts patients’ safety, privacy and dignity first

Patients engaged in health research as **patient partners** or **research participants** contribute to making research relevant, of high quality, and safe! Patients have unique experiences and views which can ensure that the right health problems are being addressed in the right way.





What is a research participant?

A **research participant** takes part in a study.

Research participants typically:

- Answer questions on a survey
- Participate in an interview or focus group
- Take part in research that tests a medication, treatment, or program

Information collected from research participants helps answer research questions.



What is a patient partner in research?

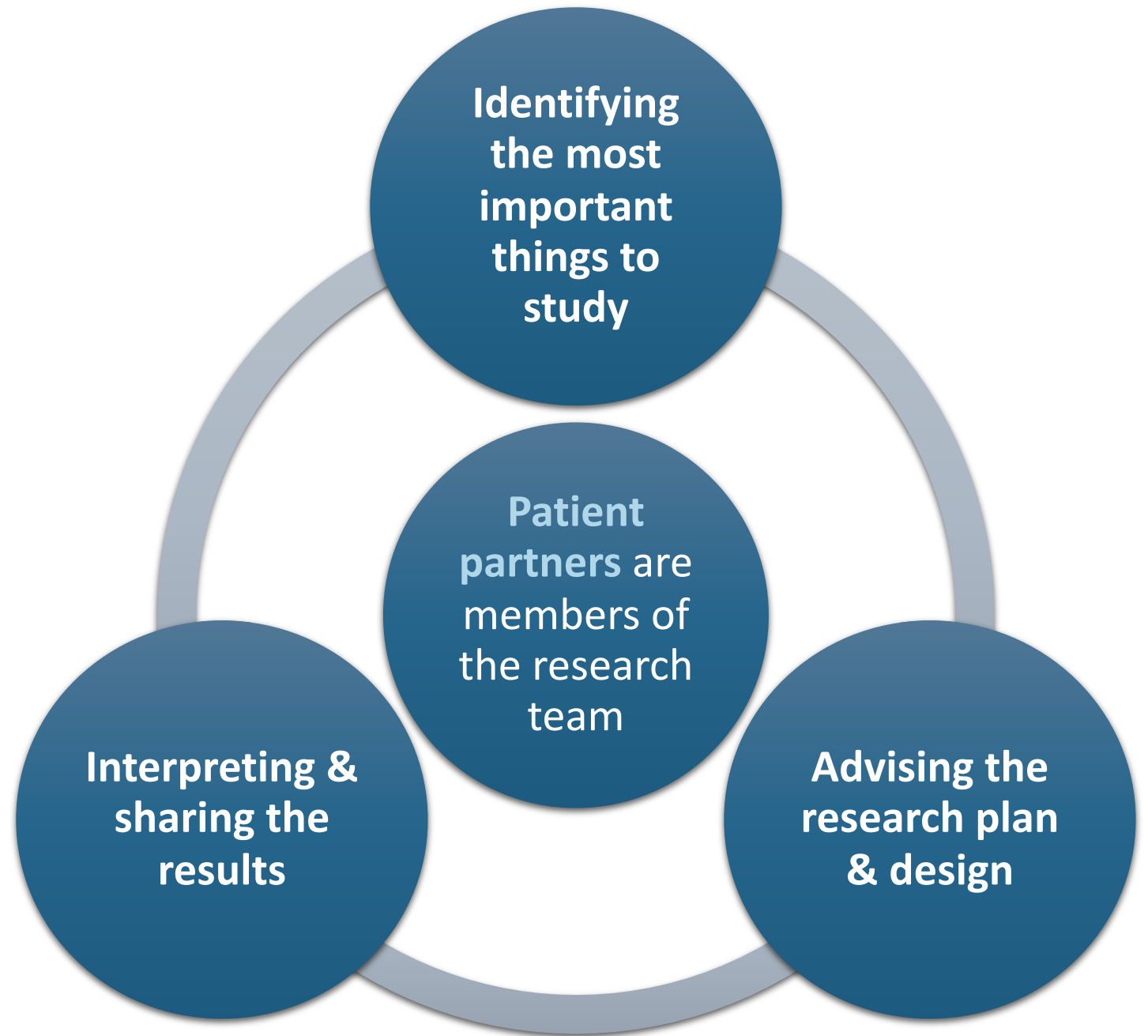
A patient partner is a part of the research team and often works with the research team to:

- Develop research ideas
 - Plan the study
 - Collect the data/information
 - Share the study results
- *All while sharing their perspectives and experiences as a patient

Examples of how research participants engage in health research



Examples of how patient partners engage in health research



References

1. National Institute for Health Research INVOLVE. Public Information Packet (PIP): How to get involved in NHS, public health and social care research. Accessed at <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/documents/public-information-pack-pip-how-to-get-involved-in-nhs-public-health-and-social-care-research/27388>.
2. Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). Public and Patient Engagement. Accessed at <https://www.pcori.org/about-us/our-programs/engagement/public-and-patient-engagement>.

