

# How do patients contribute to ACE's work?

LEARNING  
MODULE FOR  
PATIENTS AND  
THE PUBLIC:



**ACE**  
agency for  
care effectiveness

**Patients are becoming more involved** in ACE's work by contributing their lived experiences about different medical conditions and the treatments they have received.

All healthcare consumers - including **patients, carers, or representatives from a patient or voluntary organisation** - can provide their views and perspectives to inform health technology assessments and other work done by the ACE.

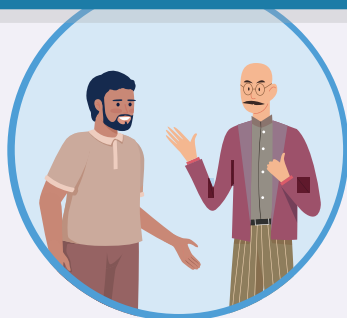
## Why patients should get involved?

The input provided improves the quality of our work, helps us understand the lived experiences, priorities, needs, and preferences of patients, and ensures that healthcare decisions informed by our work are relevant for the people most affected by them.

**Click on** the images below to learn more about the **different opportunities** for patients and carers to contribute to ACE's work.



**Suggest which topics  
ACE should evaluate**



**Co-develop  
plain language  
educational resources**



**Provide lived experiences  
about different conditions  
and treatments**



# Suggesting topics for evaluation



## How can patients and carers get involved?

They can suggest which **health technologies** they would like evaluated by ACE to fill an unmet clinical need.



## How do patients suggest topics?

When the call for topics begins, ACE sends an **application form** to all patient organisations by email.

They can distribute the form to their members to complete individually or they can collate their members' suggestions and prepare the application forms on their behalf.

Applications can be sent to ACE until the end of January each year.



## When can patients expect to be invited to suggest topics?

Each year, usually **around October**, ACE invites patient organisations to submit applications for health technologies (topics) that they would like ACE to evaluate for different conditions. This is known as the **annual call for topics**.



## How does ACE use these suggestions?

ACE ranks all suggested topics in order of **priority** for evaluation using specific criteria.

MOH advisory committees then use this information to decide which topics should be added to ACE's evaluation work plan.



**HOW TO SUGGEST HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES FOR ACE TO EVALUATE?**

A Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) conducts technical evaluations to assess the effectiveness, safety, and value of health technologies (such as drugs and medical devices) used to diagnose, treat or prevent different medical conditions. These evaluations inform the Ministry of Health (MOH) advisory committees when they make funding recommendations.

Patients, carers or representatives from a patient or voluntary organisation can suggest which health technologies ACE should evaluate for different conditions (topics). This worksheet explains how to do this.

**APPLICATION FORMS ARE SENT TO PATIENT ORGANISATIONS**

Each year around October, ACE invites patient organisations and other stakeholders to submit applications for health technologies that they would like ACE to evaluate for different conditions. This is known as the annual call for topics.

Click to learn more

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# Providing lived experiences about different conditions and treatments



## How can patients and carers get involved?

They can provide **lived experiences** about different conditions, treatments, and unmet needs to inform **ACE's technical evaluations** and **funding recommendations** made by MOH advisory committees.



## When can patients expect to be invited for input?

ACE evaluates different health technologies that have been prioritised by MOH advisory committees.

**Once a technical evaluation begins**, ACE invites all local patient organisations with members who are likely to have an interest in the medical condition or health technology to provide input.



## How do patients provide input?

Any patient or carer can provide input to ACE by completing a written **survey** about the health technology and condition under evaluation.

Patient organisations can send the survey to their members to complete individually or they can summarise their members' survey responses and provide a collated submission to ACE.

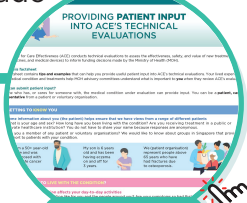
Patients usually have at least 4 weeks to submit their responses.



## How does ACE use patient input?

Lived experiences of patients and their carers provide important evidence to inform ACE's technical evaluations and help MOH advisory committees understand patients' needs, preferences and expectations as well as which outcomes are most important to them.

**All** patient input is considered by MOH advisory committees and used to inform funding recommendations made for different health technologies.



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# Co-developing plain language educational resources



## How can patients and carers get involved?

They can **suggest topics** where plain language resources are needed to explain different treatments and conditions.

They can also **provide feedback** on educational resources that ACE **co-develops** with patient organisations and clinicians about different medical conditions, health technologies, and healthcare policies to make sure that they are easy to read and answer the questions that patients are likely to have about the topic.

Questionnaire



## How do patients provide input?

A draft educational resource and short questionnaire are sent to patient organisations via email to determine whether the resource is easy to understand, useful and relevant.

Patient organisations can distribute the draft resource and the **feedback questionnaire** to their members to capture their comments and suggestions.



## When can patients expect to be invited for input?

Educational resources are drafted by ACE and then sent to all patient organisations that may have an interest in the topic for **input** and **feedback**.



## How does ACE use the input and feedback received?

All suggestions received are used by ACE to **improve** the educational resource before it is finalised for publication.

Feedback



## Where can I find out more about being involved in ACE's work?



Visit the **ACE website** for resources about how patients can be involved in ACE's work



**Opportunities for Patient Involvement**



Find **factsheets** on different treatments and conditions to support shared decision-making



**Educational Resources**



**Stay informed** about recently published educational resources and upcoming patient involvement initiatives at ACE



**CEE Updates**



**Learning Modules** are developed by the Consumer Engagement and Education (CEE) team at ACE. For more information about other educational resources or opportunities to get involved in ACE's work, please refer to our webpage or contact us at [ace\\_cee@moh.gov.sg](mailto:ace_cee@moh.gov.sg).

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