

## Supplementary Online Content

Schoenborn NL, Bowman TL II, Cayea D, Pollack CE, Feeser S, Boyd C. Primary care practitioners' views on incorporating long-term prognosis in the care of older adults. *JAMA Intern Med.* Published online April 11, 2016. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2016.0670.

### **eAppendix.** Interview Guide

This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

## **eAppendix. Interview Guide**

### **Introduction:**

We are interested in how primary care providers think about and incorporate prognosis in their care of older patients (65 or older); we specifically are interested in life expectancy, although understanding that is not the only outcome in prognostication. There is no right or wrong answer. We are simply trying to explore different perspectives of primary care providers.

### **Identifying scenarios involving prognosis**

1. Can you describe a time when you thought about a patient's life expectancy when making clinical decisions or recommendations?
2. What factors may make you think about life expectancy?
3. Specifically about cancer screening. Some guidelines recommend incorporating life expectancy into cancer screening. Is there a time when you thought about life expectancy in cancer screening you can tell me about?
4. Are there other types of examples that have not been mentioned where you would find life expectancy information helpful?

### **Knowledge**

1. How do you come up with estimates of life expectancy? Any strategy or tools?
2. How would you describe your ability to estimate life expectancy for patients who are not clearly dying, in the range of a few years?
3. How do you use life expectancy information in clinical decision making? How is it helpful to you?
4. Can you think of any other strategies to assess and incorporate life expectancy? Any tools that may be helpful?

### **Communication**

1. How do you feel about communicating life expectancy? When may this be important?
2. Can you talk about a time when you explicitly talked about life expectancy? How would you communicate this information to the patient? What is your strategy?
3. Sometimes not everything that we consider or impact our clinical reasoning is shared in detail with the patient, can you think of a time when you considered life expectancy but did not explicitly talk about it with the patient? What factors affected your decision whether to discuss life expectancy explicitly?

### **Barriers to incorporating prognosis**

1. What are some barriers to incorporating life expectancy in clinical decision making that you have encountered?

2. Are there any other barriers we haven't discussed? What can be done to make it easier for clinicians to incorporate life expectancy?

### **E-prognosis Tool**

ePrognosis is a website with a compilation of life expectancy prediction tools, they can predict up to 10 year mortality in community dwelling older adults. I'm going to show you the website briefly.

### DEMO

1. What are your thoughts about these tools? Do you think something like this would be helpful in improving estimates of life expectancy than your clinical intuition alone?

2. What would have to be in place to make it easier for you to use these tools routinely? What would you like to see changed about these tools?

3. Are there any training that may be helpful to better incorporate life expectancy in your clinical practice?