## Interactive Activity Participant Best Practices Reference Sheet

### Best Practice Considerations Checklist

There are a number of best practices to consider when developing effective communications about benefit, risk and uncertainty for medical devices. Through this report, MDIC and its working group developed a checklist of eight best practice elements:

<table>
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<th>Best Practice</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 1 Explicit description of the decision             | • Involve patients in decisions about screening, treatment, and other interventions  
• Provide information about the options and their associated relevant outcomes  
• Help patients personalize the information and understand that they can be involved in choosing among the various options |
| 2 Description of the health problem                | • Provide evidence-based information about the health condition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3 Information on options and their benefits, harms and consequences | • Describe potential benefits: favorable effects or desirable outcomes of a diagnostic or therapeutic strategy.  
• Describe potential harms: unfavorable effects or undesirable outcomes of a diagnostic or therapeutic strategy  
• Review risk: the probability of a harm (the greater the risk the more likely a harm is to occur) and an assessment of the severity of a potential harm |
| 4 Values clarification (implicit & explicit)       | • Help patients recognize how their values relate to the decision  
• Clarify the value patients place on the benefits, harms, and scientific uncertainties associated with the treatment option |
| 5 Numerical probabilities                          | • The concept of a relative risk reduction has been shown to be better understood than an absolute risk reduction  
• Natural frequencies are sometimes better understood and easier to interpret than probabilities  
• Patients who are less comfortable with numbers rank frequency as higher risk than percentage |
| 6 Personal Stories                                 | • Provides examples of patient experience with a specific treatment option  
• Helps patients gather and share information among a community of others with similar experience.  
• Provides detailed insights about the disease journey |
| 7 Patient Preference Information                   | • When faced with one or more options, an individual decides to choose one option over the other(s), thereby expressing a “preference” for one option over another  
• Patients involved in making choices about health care will express preferences among the available treatments  
• Having this information can help other patients make decisions among treatment options |
| 8 Presentation strategies to help understanding    | • Consider literacy of patients for whom this information is intended  
• Gauge patients’ digital literacy when technological tools are used to present information  
• Graphic information has been shown to be preferred for understanding compared with text or tables  
• Consider the impact that ordering of benefit and risk information can have on patients’ understanding |