Overview

For more detailed information, please refer to the PORLET Companion Document.

The PORLET measures how closely a project aligns with the definition of patient-oriented research as described by the CIHR Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research.[1-3] It assists grant review committees in evaluating patient-oriented research proposals, explains patient-oriented research to individuals new to this process and aids researchers as a guide for writing research proposals.

The PORLET includes five criteria: **Patients are Partners, Patient Identified Priorities, Outcomes Important to Patients, Aims to Integrate Knowledge into Practice,** and **Team is Multidisciplinary**.[4] It also includes five levels of engagement; *inform, consult, involve, collaborate, empower,* adapted from the International Association for Public Participation.[5]

Instructions

Please evaluate each of the five criteria individually on a scale of 1-5 and then add the scores together for a total final score.

1 is the **lowest** score for each criteria ⟶ ①   2   3   4   ⑤ ⟵ **5** is the **highest** score for each criteria

The lowest possible total score is 5 and the highest possible total score is 25.

Definitions

Patient	Someone who has personal experience of a health issue, or their informal caregivers, including family and friends.[2] The term patient may be replaced with client, family, resident, person with lived experience, community, or community-based organization.[5]
Inform	To provide patients balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem and potential solutions[5]
Consult	To obtain patients' feedback on the research project and decisions[5]
Involve	To work directly with patients throughout the process to ensure their viewpoints are understood and considered[5]
Collaborate	To partner with patients in each aspect of the research project[5]
Empower	To place final decision making in the hands of the patients[5]

References

1. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (2017). Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research. Retrieved from http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/41204.html
2. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (2014). SPOR Patient Engagement Framework. Retrieved from http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48413.html
3. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (2015). SPOR Capacity Development Framework. Retrieved from http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49307.html
4. Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (2018). SCPOR Patient-Oriented Research Level of Engagement Tool. Retrieved from http://www.scpor.ca
5. International Association for Public Participation (2015). IAP2 Spectrum for Public Participation. Retrieved from http://iap2canada.ca/page-1020549

SCPOR Patient-Oriented Research Level of Engagement Tool

Criteria \ Score	1 **inform**	2 **consult**	3 **involve**	4 **collaborate**	5 **empower**	Criteria Score
Patients are Partners	Patients are **informed** about the research project. Patients do not have a direct role in any decision-making.	Patients are **consulted** as team members who provide feedback about the project. Patients do not have a direct role in decision-making.	Patients are **involved** as team members. Patients consistently share ideas that are sometimes reflected in project decisions.	Patients **collaborate** as equal team members. Patients co-develop ideas that are incorporated into project decisions.	Patients are **empowered** as team members. Patients are considered primary decision-makers throughout the project.	
Patient Identified Priorities	Patients are **informed** about the research priorities but do not have a direct role in identifying priorities.	Patients are **consulted** as team members who provide feedback about project priorities.	Patients are **involved** as team members who consistently share ideas that are reflected in some project priorities.	Patients **collaborate** as equal team members who co-identify project priorities.	Patients are **empowered** as team members who are primary decision-makers for project priorities.	
Outcomes Important to Patients	Patients are **informed** about the research outcomes but do not have a direct role in determining outcomes.	Patients are **consulted** as team members who provide feedback about project outcomes.	Patients are **involved** as team members who consistently share ideas that are reflected in some project outcomes.	Patients **collaborate** as equal team members who co-determine project outcomes.	Patients are **empowered** as team members who are primary decision-makers for project outcomes.	
Aims to Integrate Knowledge into Practice	Patients are **informed** about the knowledge translation plan but do not have a direct role in creating the knowledge translation plan.	Patients are **consulted** as team members who provide feedback about the knowledge translation plan.	Patients are **involved** as team members who consistently share ideas that are reflected in some parts of the knowledge translation plan.	Patients **collaborate** as equal team members who co-create the knowledge translation plan.	Patients are **empowered** as team members who are primary creators of the knowledge translation plan.	
Team is Multi-disciplinary	Team does **not** include relevant disciplines or stakeholders.	Team includes **some** relevant disciplines and stakeholders. Team is missing one or more discipline/stakeholder essential to the project.	Team is multidisciplinary with **all** relevant disciplines and stakeholders included. **Few** team member roles are clearly defined.	Team is multidisciplinary with **all** relevant disciplines and stakeholders included. **Some** team member roles are clearly defined.	Team is multidisciplinary, with **all** relevant disciplines and stakeholders included. **All** team roles are clearly defined.	

Total Criteria Score: