

# Deliberative Methods Experiment

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
Community Forum



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
Advancing Excellence in Health Care • [www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov)



Effective Health Care Program

Community Forum

# Background & objectives of experiment

## ■ Background

- Started in August 2010
- Literature review, Technical Expert Panel, formative research to inform approach

## ■ Objectives

- Expand the evidence base on public deliberation
- Obtain public input on the use of evidence in healthcare decision-making

# Deliberative topic in detail: use of evidence in healthcare decision-making

- Inform AHRQ's approaches to dissemination and guidance about comparative effectiveness research (CER) evidence
- Addresses fundamental tensions in healthcare
  - Appropriate roles and responsibilities of providers, patients, payers, purchasers, and the government
  - Individual liberties vs. shared responsibilities and impact
  - When oversight and regulation are necessary
  - Actors that are trustworthy to the public

# Overview of experiment

- RCT comparing education-only control and 5 deliberative methods
  - Brief Citizens' Deliberation
  - Community Deliberation
  - In-Person Deliberative Polling®
  - Online Deliberative Polling®
  - Citizens' Panel
- 4 locations: DC, Chicago, Sacramento, Raleigh-Durham
- 76 deliberative groups; 1,296 participants
  - Inclusion of AHRQ's priority populations: elderly Medicare, African American women, non-urban, and bilingual Latino
  - Education level diversity sought

# Evaluation - key outcomes of interest

- Knowledge
  - Of CER, quality of care, generation of medical evidence
- Attitudes
  - On appropriate roles of providers, patients, purchasers, and government regarding using evidence in healthcare decision-making; boundaries around the use of evidence
- Motivation to participate in civic activities
- Deliberative content to inform AHRQ's CER work: values, ethics, and guidance that emerge from group deliberations

# Next steps and information to look for

## ■ Next steps

- Implement experiment: summer - fall 2012
- Analysis: summer 2012 - summer 2013

## ■ Information to look for

- Literature review of deliberative methods
- Panel at AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, June 2012
- Report of findings from experiment, late summer/fall 2013

## ■ Where to find this information

- <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/tools-and-resources/how-to-get-involved-in-the-effective-health-care-program/>