



Effective Health Care

Proper Terminology for Pulmonary Hypertension Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Proper terminology for pulmonary hypertension does not fit within the domain of the Effective Health Care (EHC) Program because it does not address an effectiveness or comparative effectiveness question. No further activity will be undertaken on this topic.

Topic Description

Nominator: Anonymous individual

Nomination Summary: The nominator states that when decision support applications are created for heart failure patients, pulmonary hypertension is often grouped together to include “right-sided heart involvement”. The nominator states that this could result in undesired alerts in the decision support tool and that clinicians should explicitly state “pulmonary hypertensions without right heart involvement”. The nominator states that this distinction also needs to be made during the design of clinical trials.

Key Questions from Nominator:

1. Many physicians will state "Pulmonary Hypertension" as the nature of a patient's illness with the underlying meaning of "Right-sided Heart involvement". What are the comparative risks associated with the same in clinical trials?

Considerations

- The topic does not meet EHC Program appropriateness criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)