

ORAL PRESENTATION

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# Design considerations in the development of a core outcome set

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No gold standard method currently exists for the development of a core outcome set (COS) although key issues to consider have been identified [1]. Methodological decisions in the design of a project to develop a COS for otitis media with effusion (OME) in children with cleft palate (CP) will be explained.

## Stakeholder groups

Clinicians involved in the management of OME were identified as: ENT surgeons; audiologists; cleft surgeons; speech and language therapists; specialist nurses. Discussions with CLAPA patient groups resulted in a Delphi for patients (7-11, 12-16 years), their parents and adults with CP and OME.

## Separate Delphi panels

A Delphi exercise has been undertaken with each clinical stakeholder group separately. This method does not assume that different stakeholder groups will have the same outcome priorities.

## Describing outcomes for patients and their parents

A lay description written for each outcome was reviewed by CLAPA groups and reading age assessed. Understanding was tested in a subsample using the think aloud method.

## Delivery of the Delphi online

Each round of the Delphi was delivered online using a bespoke system that managed participation invitations, reminders, data collection and reporting.

## Integration of clinical and patient views

Results of the separate Delphi surveys for each stakeholder group will be shared with all participants with an opportunity to re-score. Clinicians, adults, patients and their parents who have taken part in a Delphi panel/qualitative interview will be invited to a consensus meeting, facilitated by a Study Advisory Group and CLAPA members, to discuss the final COS.

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