

Online Supplementary Material

Sussman AL, Williams R, Leverence R, Gloyd P Jr, Crabtree BF. The art and complexity of primary care clinicians' preventive counseling decisions: obesity as a case study. *Ann Fam Med*. 2006;4:327-333.

<http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/content/full/4/4/327/DC1>

Supplemental Appendix 1. Clinician Interview Guide

Introduction Thank you for taking the time to meet with me today. Your participation in this project will help us to understand how primary care clinicians handle the many competing demands during each brief outpatient encounter. We hope to use this information as a first step in developing evidence-based strategies for the brief encounter. The information that you provide will be kept strictly confidential as will the identity of every clinician interviewed for this study. Do you have any questions before we begin?

1. Please tell me about your practice: schedule, practice locations, types of patients, etc.
2. Can you share with me your most recent patient encounter?
 - a. Was preventive counseling a part of this encounter?
 - b. Was obesity an issue for this patient? (if no) Can you recall the last obese patient you saw?
 - c. Did you discuss the patient's obesity?

If yes:

- a. Can you tell me about the factors that led to this dialogue?
- b. What was your schedule like that day?
- c. How effective was this intervention?
- d. Can you share with me another encounter with a patient who was obese, and where obesity did not come up for discussion?

If no:

- a. There are certainly lots of reasons why this topic might not come up. What were the reasons that obesity was not discussed on this visit? (What was your schedule like that day?)
 - b. Can you describe any particular challenges about the encounter that made it difficult to discuss the patient's obesity?
 - c. Some clinicians feel that counseling about obesity is not a productive use of time in most brief clinical encounters. How do you feel about delivering this service in your practice?
 - d. Can you share with me the most recent patient encounter where you did provide preventive health counseling related to obesity?
3. We are especially interested in times when the clinician discusses a patient's obesity. Can you say something about situations that lead to taking time in the brief encounter to talk about this?
 4. Can you tell me about what other kinds of things influence whether or not obesity comes up for discussion with a particular patient?
 - a. How do things like scheduling or how your day is going affect this type of counseling?

5. Can you say something about how you decide the priorities of which issues to address in the brief encounter?
6. Thinking more broadly about patients that are obese/at-risk for diabetes, can you recall a case/other cases where your preventive counseling efforts were successful?
 - a. What factors were most important in this outcome?
 - b. How do you define success?
7. We are also interested in how your personal values pertaining to issues like lifestyle and health and wellness more generally may affect the intensity and frequency with which you provide counseling for obesity. How would you respond to this?
8. Can you please tell me about other types of preventive counseling that you provide in your practice?
 - a. How successful are these efforts?
 - b. Has your approach changed over time?
9. We are also interested in things external to the encounter—such as clinical guidelines, priorities in an organization, or what other clinicians are saying about a particular clinical problem or how they are handling it. Can you tell us more about how these issues might come into play in deciding how to spend time in the encounter, thinking again about a patient with obesity.
 - a. Guidelines
 - b. Organizational
 - c. Other clinicians
10. Are there any other issues pertaining to preventive counseling that you would like to discuss?