Individual Patient Differences Matter

Why?

There are many different factors that affect how patients will respond to treatment.

The Average vs. the Individual Patient

That might mean the same treatment may work effectively for one person but differently for others. Some people may experience side effects, while others may not.

Some people need the flexibility to explore other treatment options with their care provider.

The following checklists can help health care professionals identify when there are differences in patients, populations of patients, or clinical studies.

Education Increases Understanding of Individual Patient Differences

Understanding Patient Differences Within a Study

Reviewing subgroups within a study can help identify which patients may or may not benefit from a particular treatment. It’s important to recognize when you can rely on subgroup analyses to identify what works best for individual patients, as well as how to ensure that differences exist and are not related to other characteristics.

Understanding Patient Differences Across Studies

Sometimes we need to combine studies to get a fuller picture of patients with a particular condition. It’s important to understand whether patient differences are due to how the individual studies were conducted, the types of patients included in those studies, or simply by chance.

Want More Information?

Learn more about individual treatment effects and how they can impact your ability to find and access the care that’s right for you.

Visit npcnow.org for more information.

Sources:

