

Modified Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool (PEMAT)

Minnesota Center of Excellence in Newcomer Health and Nationalities Service Center

This tool is intended to be used to vet health orientation resources for newcomer populations. The tool is a modified Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool (PEMAT). The PEMAT was originally developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and has been adapted by the Minnesota Center of Excellence and the Nationalities Service Center.

Vetting Stage 2

(Print) Understandability

Topic	Item #	Item	Response Options	Rating
Content	1	The material makes its purpose completely evident.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	2	The material does not include information or content that distracts from its purpose.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
Word Choice & Style	3	The material uses common, everyday language.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	4	Medical terms are used only to familiarize audience with the terms. When used, medical terms are defined.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	5	The material uses the active voice.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
Use of Numbers	6	Numbers appearing in the material are clear and easy to understand, do not require calculations.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No numbers=N/A	
Organization	7	The material breaks or "chunks" information into short sections that are in a logical sequence.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, Very short material=N/A	
Layout & Design	8	The material uses visual cues (e.g., arrows, boxes, bullets, bold, larger font, highlighting) to draw attention to key points.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, Video=N/A	
Use of Visual Aids	9	The material uses visual aids whenever they could make content more easily understood (e.g., illustration of healthy portion size).	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	10	The material's visual aids reinforce rather than distract from the content.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No visual aids=N/A	
	11	The material uses illustrations and photographs that are clear and uncluttered.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No visual aids=N/A	
	12	Visual aids are not culturally specific, thus can be understood across cultures.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
Actionability	13	The material clearly identifies an action the user can take.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	14	The material provides a tangible tool (e.g. menu planner, checklists) whenever it could help the user take action.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	15	The material explains how to use the charts, graphs, tables or diagrams to take actions.	Disagree=0, Agree=1 No charts, graphs, tables, diagrams= N/A	

Total Points: _____

Total Possible Points: _____

Score (%): _____

(Total Points / Total Possible Points x 100)

(Audio/Visual) Understandability

Topic	Item #	Item	Response Options	Rating
Content	1	The material makes its purpose completely evident.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
Word Choice & Style	2	The material uses common, everyday language.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	3	Medical terms are used only to familiarize audience with the terms. When used, medical terms are defined.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
Organization	4	The material breaks or "chunks" information into short sections.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, Very short material=N/A	
Layout & Design	5	The material uses visual cues (e.g., arrows, boxes, bullets, bold, larger font, highlighting) to draw attention to key points.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, Video=N/A	
	6	Text on the screen is easy to read.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No text or all text is narrated=N/A	
	7	The material allows the user to hear the words clearly (e.g., not too fast, not garbled).	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No narration=N/A	
Use of Visual Aids	8	The material uses illustrations and photographs that are clear and uncluttered.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No visual aids=N/A	
	9	The material uses simple tables with short and clear row and column headings.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No tables=N/A	
	10	Visual aids are not culturally specific, thus can be understood across cultures.	Disagree=0, Agree=1, No Visual aids=N/A	
Actionability	11	The material clearly identifies an action the user can take.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	
	12	The material breaks down any action into manageable, explicit steps.	Disagree=0, Agree=1	

Total Points: _____**Total Possible Points:** _____**Score (%):** _____

(Total Points / Total Possible Points x 100)