**What is a Decision box?**
- A Decision box is a one-page summary of research-based information about the most important benefits and harms of a health intervention, stated simply and clearly.
- The Decision box informs healthcare professionals and, by extension, their patients of the benefits and harms of all treatment and intervention options, including the option of no treatment or intervention. In this way, the box prepares healthcare professionals to translate evidence to patients, an essential step to evidence-based practice and shared decision making.

**Who is it for?**
For healthcare professionals and, by extension, their patients

**When is it used?**
The Decision box is consulted before the encounter with the patient, as a primer that prepares the healthcare professional to share the information with their patients to help them make an informed, value-based decision.

**What does it include?**
- The best available evidence from original research, systematic reviews and synopses
- Well-balanced information about the benefits and harms of all options
- Information about population or ‘average’ risks and a link to personalized risks and benefits based on individual risk factors (e.g., age, family history) when available
- Discussion of the limitations of results (false positives, false negatives and what is not known)
- A basic assessment of the quality of the evidence

**What format does it use to display risk information?**
- A combination of numbers, graphics and narratives:
  - Numbers as absolute risks in natural frequencies with a constant denominator across the benefits and harms of all options
  - Graphics in diverse formats: part-to-whole bar graphs are preferred to convey conditional probabilities, ratios, and proportions
  - Numerical information explained in words to facilitate the expression of probabilities