



Effective Health Care

Assistive Toileting Technologies: The “BeaM-Go” Versus Other Devices Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Assistive toileting technologies: the “BeaM-Go” versus other devices is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.

Topic Description

Nominator: Individual

Nomination Summary: The nominator is interested in how a new self-managed bedside commode, the “BeaM-GO,” compares to other assistive toileting technologies such as poles, grab bars, lifts, adult diapers, and older versions of a bedside commode-transfer board combination. Based on personal experience and anecdotal reports, the nominator suggests that the “BeaM-GO” has significant potential to improve care for both patients who need assistance with toileting and their caregivers.

Staff-Generated PICO:

Population(s): Patients aged 65 and older with mobility limitations but with trunk stability and upper body strength

Intervention(s): Self-managed bedside commode (the “BeaM-GO”)

Comparator(s): Other assistive toileting technologies including poles, wall grab bars, bedside commode-transfer board combinations, lifts, adult diapers

Outcome(s): Patients’ ability to manage their own care; improvement in other ADLs, decrease in caregiver burden; decreased patient falls; unidentified infection control consequences; patient injury due to defective design; patients being encouraged to use the device by caregivers when they are not able to

Key Questions from Nominator:

1. For patients with mobility limitations but who have trunk stability and upper body strength, what are the comparative risks and benefits of adopting a self-managed bedside commode system versus older assistive toileting technologies?

Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)

- This topic represents an important area that affects a large number of people; however, very few studies have been conducted on assistive toileting devices. Therefore, this topic is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.