

Appendix D. Pre- and Postsession Survey Responses

Question	Presurvey		Postsurvey		P Value
	No.	%	No.	%	
Background					
In general, would you say your health is:					
Excellent			1	4.4	
Very good			8	34.8	
Good			7	30.4	
Fair			5	21.7	
Poor			2	8.7	
All things considered, how satisfied are you with your VA health care?					
Extremely satisfied			4	17.4	
Very satisfied			12	52.2	
Somewhat satisfied			3	13.0	
Somewhat dissatisfied			2	8.7	
Very dissatisfied			0	0.0	
Extremely dissatisfied			2	8.7	
What is your age?					
18-24 y			0	0.0	
25-30 y			0	0.0	
31-40 y			3	13.0	
41-50 y			2	8.7	
51-60 y			6	26.1	
61-75 y			11	47.8	
> 75 y			1	4.4	
What is your sex?					
Male			13	68.4	
Female			6	31.6	
How do you identify your race/ethnicity?					
White			15	65.2	
Black or African American			4	17.4	
Hispanic/Latino			1	4.4	
Asian/Pacific Islander			0	0.0	
American Indian/Native American			0	0.0	
Mixed			2	8.7	
Other			1	4.4	
What was the last year of school that you completed?					
Less than high school			1	4.4	

High school graduate			3	13.0	
Some college			10	43.5	
College graduate			6	26.1	
Postgraduate degree			3	13.0	
What is your total annual family income?					
< \$10,000			1	4.34	
\$10,001 to \$25,000			3	13.0	
\$25,001 to \$40,000			10	43.5	
\$40,001 to \$55,000			6	26.1	
\$55,001 to \$70,000			3	13.0	
> \$70,001			0	0.0	
Knowledge					
What is the Veterans Choice Act?					$t(21) = 1.00;$ $P = .33$
Correct	16	72.7	18	78.3	
Incorrect	6	27.3	5	21.7	
What is the purpose of the Veterans Choice Act?					$t(21) = 1.00;$ $P = .33$
Correct	12	54.6	16	69.6	
Incorrect	10	45.5	7	30.4	
Who is eligible to receive care through the Veterans Choice Act?					$t(21) = 1.82;$ $P = .08$
Correct	17	77.3	21	91.3	
Incorrect	5	22.7	2	8.7	
A veteran who is eligible for the Veterans Choice Act can decline civilian care and continue to receive care at the VA.					$t(21) = 1.37,$ $P = .19$
Correct	17	77.3	21	91.3	
Incorrect	5	22.7	2	8.7	
The Veterans Choice Act is a temporary program that will expire in 2017.					$t(21) = 4.58,$ $P < .001^a$
Correct	11	50.0	22	95.7	
Incorrect	11	50.0	1	4.4	
What crisis led to the passage of the Veterans Choice Act?					$t(21) = 1.37;$ $P = .19$
Correct	16	76.2	20	90.9	
Incorrect	5	23.8	2	90.9	
Expectations/satisfaction					

(Presurvey) I am hopeful that the community forum will be a good use of my time. (Postsurvey) Overall, the community forum was a good use of my time.					$t(21) = 0.22,$ $P = .83$
Strongly agree	14	63.6	14	60.9	
Agree	7	31.8	9	39.1	
Disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Strongly disagree	1	4.6	0	0.0	
(Presurvey) I am hopeful that the recommendations that come out of today's forum will help inform policy makers. (Postsurvey) I think the recommendations made by the group will help inform policy makers.					$t(21) = 1.56;$ $P = .14$
Strongly agree	11	50.0	7	31.8	
Agree	8	36.4	11	50.0	
Disagree	1	4.6	2	9.1	
Strongly disagree	2	9.1	2	9.1	
People in the group respected my opinion.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	10	43.5	
Agree	NA	NA	12	52.2	
Disagree	NA	NA	1	4.4	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
People in the group really listened to each other.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	15	65.2	
Agree	NA	NA	8	34.8	
Disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
I spoke as much as I wanted.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	12	52.2	
Agree	NA	NA	11	47.8	
Disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
The facilitator did not try to influence the group with her own opinions.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	19	82.6	
Agree	NA	NA	3	13.0	
Disagree	NA	NA	1	4.4	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	

The facilitator encouraged everyone in the group to speak.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	18	78.3	
Agree	NA	NA	5	21.7	
Disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
I understood the information enough to participate as much as I wanted.					
Strongly agree	NA	NA	14	60.9	
Agree	NA	NA	9	39.1	
Disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
Strongly disagree	NA	NA	0	0.0	
Beliefs and opinions					
How important is it for veterans to be able to get civilian care in their own communities and have the VA pay for it?					$t(21) = 1.14;$ $P = .27$
Critically important	11	50.0	8	34.8	
Very important	8	36.4	8	34.8	
Moderately important	1	4.6	5	21.7	
Somewhat important	2	9.1	2	8.7	
Not at all important	0	0.0	0	0.0	
How important is it for veterans to get all of their care within the VA health care system?					$t(21) = 1.14;$ $P = .45$
Critically important	4	18.2	3	13.0	
Very important	10	45.5	16	69.6	
Moderately important	7	31.8	2	8.7	
Somewhat important	0	0.0	2	8.7	
Not at all important	1	4.6	0	0.0	
If cost was not a factor, would you prefer to get your health care:					
Within the VA health care system	2	9.1	10	43.5	
In your own community with civilian doctors	5	22.7	4	17.4	
It doesn't matter to me	3	13.6	3	13.0	
It depends on the procedure or care needed	12	54.6	6	26.1	
Deliberative topics					
How often should patients like Darrell be able to see a heart specialist in their local					$t(19) = 0.24;$ $P = .82$

community and have the VA pay for these appointments?					
Always	14	70.0	16	69.6	
Often	5	25.0	5	21.7	
Sometimes	1	5.0	2	8.7	
Rarely	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Never	0	0.0	0	0.0	
How often should patients like Matt be able to see an orthopedic doctor in their local community and have the VA pay for these appointments?					$t(20) = 3.20$; $P = .005^b$
Always	11	52.4	7	30.4	
Often	10	47.6	10	43.5	
Sometimes	0	0.0	5	21.7	
Rarely	0	0.0	1	4.4	
Never	0	0.0	0	0.0	
How often should patients like Joan be able to see a primary care provider in their local community and have the VA pay for these appointments?					$t(19) = 3.20$; $P = .018^c$
Always	8	40.0	7	30.4	
Often	7	35.0	3	13.0	
Sometimes	4	20.0	8	34.8	
Rarely	1	5.0	4	17.4	
Never	0	0.0	1	4.4	
How should additional funding be divided between increasing the ability of the VA to (1) provide care by VA providers; and (2) pay for care from non-VA civilian providers?					
Skipped	8	34.7	0	0	
Buy	4	17.5	5	21.8	
50/50	3	13.0	2	8.7	
Build	8	34.8	16	69.5	

^a $P < .001$.

^b $P < .01$.

^c $P < .05$.