

***Beginnings Pregnancy Guide* Earns High Marks from Reviewers**

Understandability: 96.5% Actionability: 98%

Sandra Smith, PhD

Health and social services providers, program directors, trainers and supervisors (N=26) assessed the understandability and “actionability” of *Beginnings Pregnancy Guide*. Each of the six booklets comprising the *Guide* was reviewed separately by 4 or 5 individuals working independently.

Reviewers used the [PEMAT-P](#) that’s the Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool for Printable materials, published recently by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Understandability: 96.5%

The quality of information that enables users to comprehend its meaning

The PEMAT-P asks reviewers to rate printable materials on 17 factors in six categories known to affect understandability. A score of 1 indicates the factor is present; 0 indicates it is not. Factor scores are expressed as the percent of possible scores of 1. The final score is calculated as the average of reviewers’ combined scores in each category. Here are the category scores:

Content: 94%	Word Choice/Style: 96%	Use of Numbers: 100%
Organization: 97%	Layout/Design: 96%	Visual Aids: 96%

Actionability: 98%

The quality of information that enables users to take action

Reviewers score seven contributing factors. The final score is calculated as the average of the factor scores.

Identifies Actions to Take: 100%	Breaks Actions into Steps: 96%
Addresses User Directly: 100%	Provides Tangible Tools: 100%
Visual Aids Facilitate Action: 92%	Simple Instructions for Calculations: 100%
Simple Instructions for Using Graphs, Charts, Tables: 100%	

What the reviewers said about the *Pregnancy Guide*:

Reviewers were not asked to comment on the materials, but some did:

“I reviewed both the entire Pregnancy and Parents Guide, the entire series of each. I really appreciated how they are presented in short formats and easy reading, these would be especially great for my young teenagers. An additional plus is the links to other resources per specific topics. Thank-you for your work.”

“The book looks wonderful and is of very high quality - should be very usable! Overall, the book looks and reads very clearly and will be very understandable for a low-level reader.”

"You've accomplished another fine resource for pregnant women. I love the reminder: *Save this book. You will need it later.*"

Many thanks to the Review Panel:

Betsy Rubin, Lori Lake, Pamela Cho, Michelle Breuer, Dora McKean,
Kath Anderson, Joanne Martin, Tennesa Dallas-Theus, Hudelaine Deus,
Oscar Flores, Cheryl Underwood, Marisela Rosales, Kobe Rives, Alli McClennen, Eva Perez, Lina
Rooney, Elizabeth Burlison, Cynthia Smith, Denise Powell,
Katie Burnett, Leslie Munson, Mary Rosecky, Jeffrey Wynnyk, Linda Wollesen, Margarita Franco,
Maryellen Miller.