

Lessons Learned from Applicants and Reviewers – Survey Results

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Introduction: PCORI Moderators



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Pre-Award Manager, Contracts Management and Administration



Mari Kimura, PhD

Merit Review Officer



Laura Forsythe, PhD

Senior Program Officer, Research Integration and Evaluation



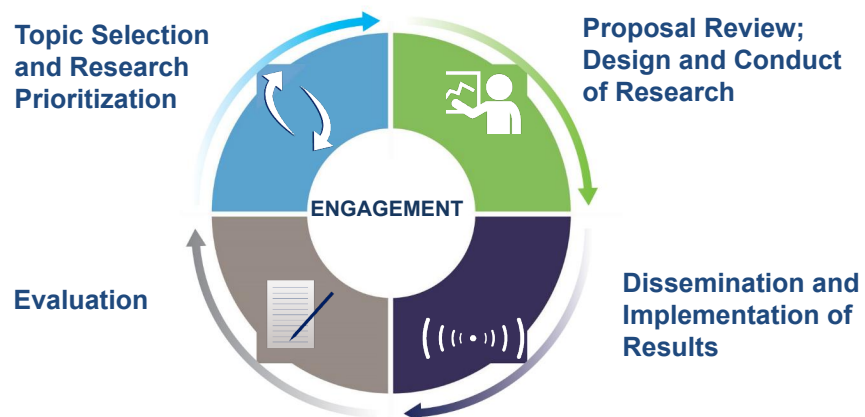
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For Today

- Where we were and where we are now
- Present results from applicant and reviewer surveys



Engagement as a Path To Useful, High-Quality Research



Learning about PCORI Merit Review

- Survey of applicants
- Survey of reviewers
- Group interviews with reviewers
- Analysis of merit review scores
 - Fleurence et al. (2014) *Annals of Internal Medicine*
- Public webinars
 - An Applicant and a Couple of Reviewers
 - Walk into a Webinar: Lessons Learned from PCORI Merit Review (December 2014)



PCORI Merit Review Process Improvements

Competitive Letter of Intent (LOI) process

Reduced number of applications assigned to reviewers

Improved application assignments through expertise matching

Role of Merit Review Officers (MROs)



PCORI Merit Review Process Improvements

PCORI Funding
Announcement
(PFA) guidance for
reviewers

First written
critique webinar
for scientist
reviewers

Updates to
reviewer training
and additional
training for Chairs



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Improvements to PCORI Application Process

- Greater clarity on the types of studies we aim to fund
- Telephone support by the Helpdesk and programmatic staff
- New resources for developing engagement plans
- Revised application template and patient & stakeholder biosketch



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Future Areas for Attention

- Make the online system more user friendly
- Communicate large amounts of complex information concisely and clearly
- Continue process improvements while keeping changes manageable for applicants and reviewers



Applicant and Reviewer Surveys

		Cycle II	Cycle III	August 2013	Winter 2014	Spring 2014	Spring 2014 PT	Fall 2014
Applicant surveys	Overall Rate	--	--	27%	61%	44%	66%	77%
	N	--	--	168	217	228	23	184
Reviewer Surveys	Overall Rate	74%	72%	70%	83%	88%	90%	<i>Coming soon</i>
	N	192	162	259	173	284	38	



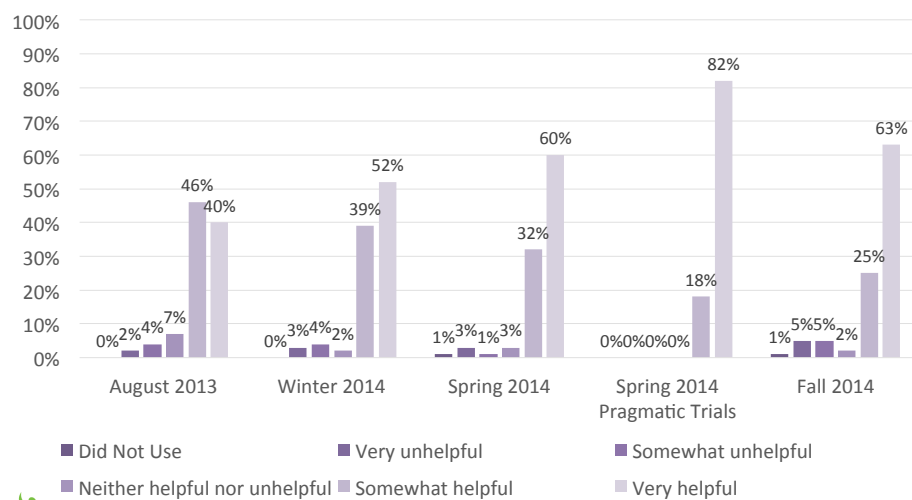
Applicant Survey Results



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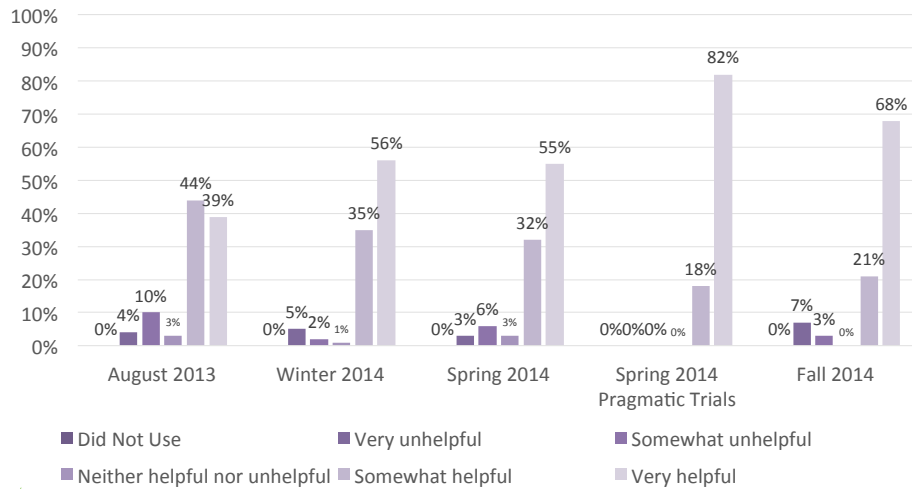
Helpfulness of PCORI Funding Announcements (PFAs)



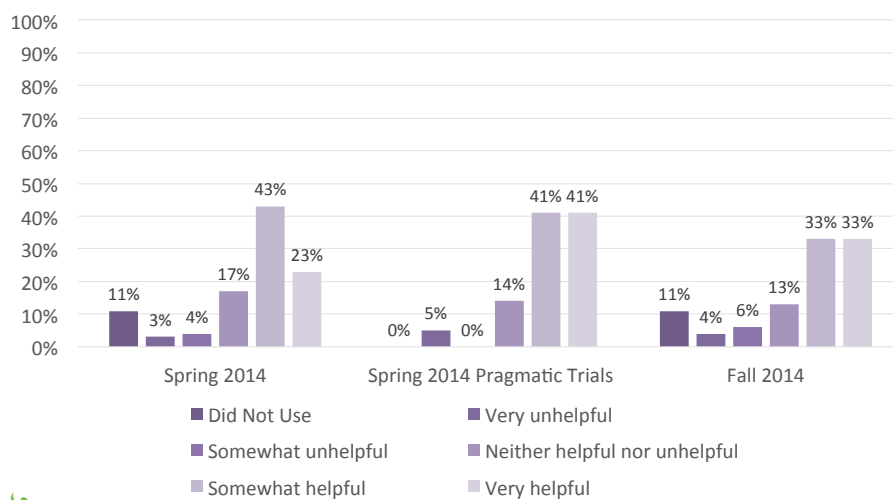
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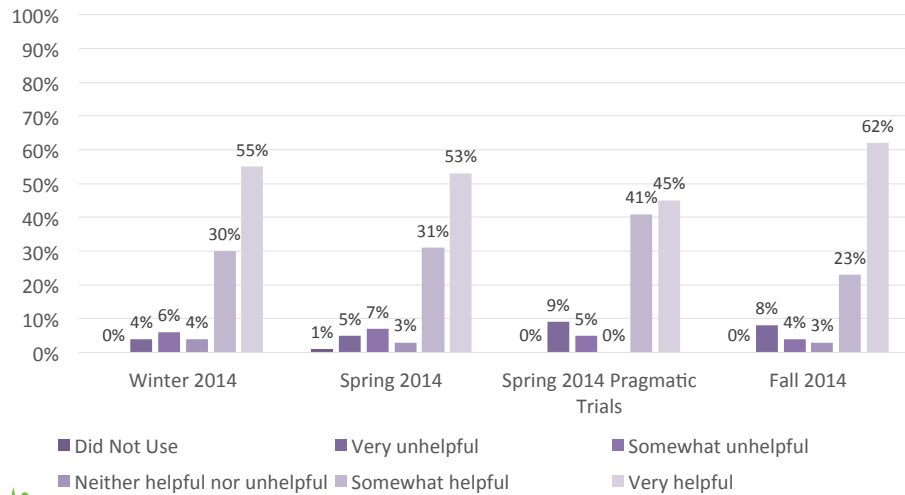
Helpfulness of PCORI Application Guidelines



Helpfulness of Applicant FAQs



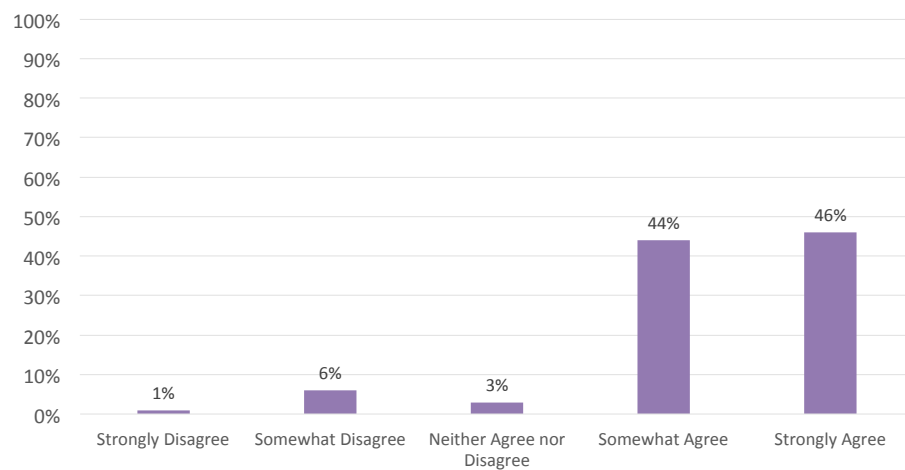
Helpfulness of Application Templates



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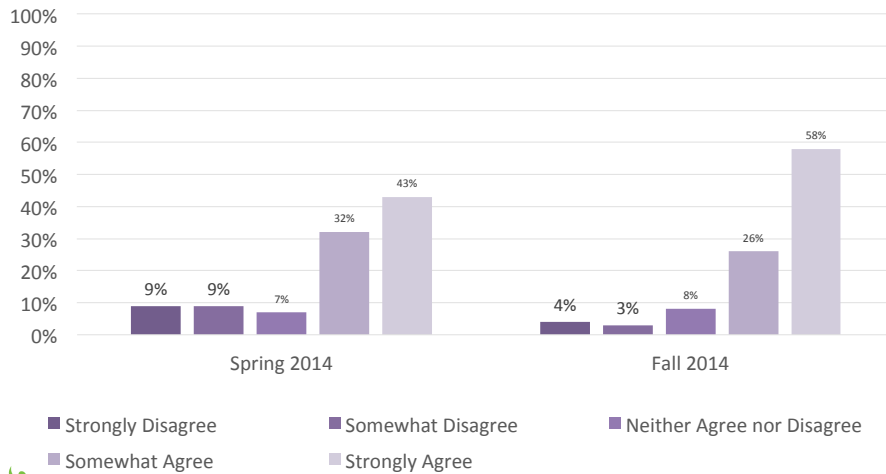
Applicant Survey: "I understand the criteria PCORI uses to screen LOIs"



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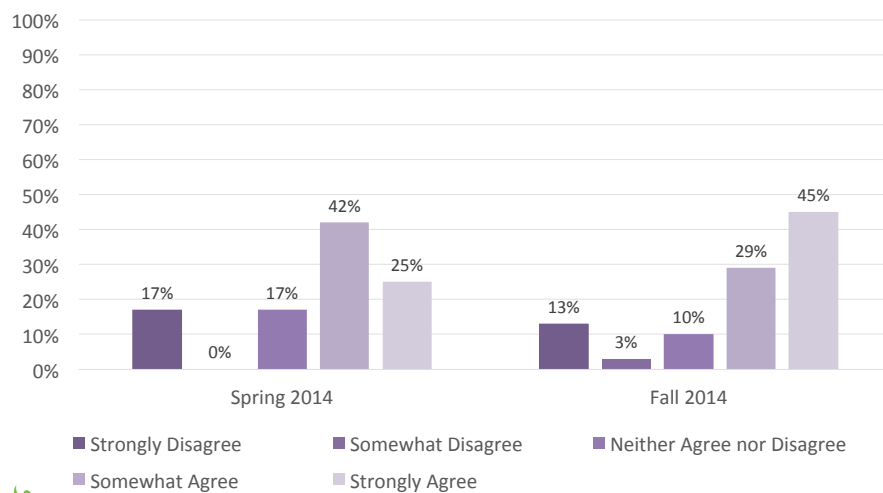
Helpfulness of responses to pfa@pcori.org



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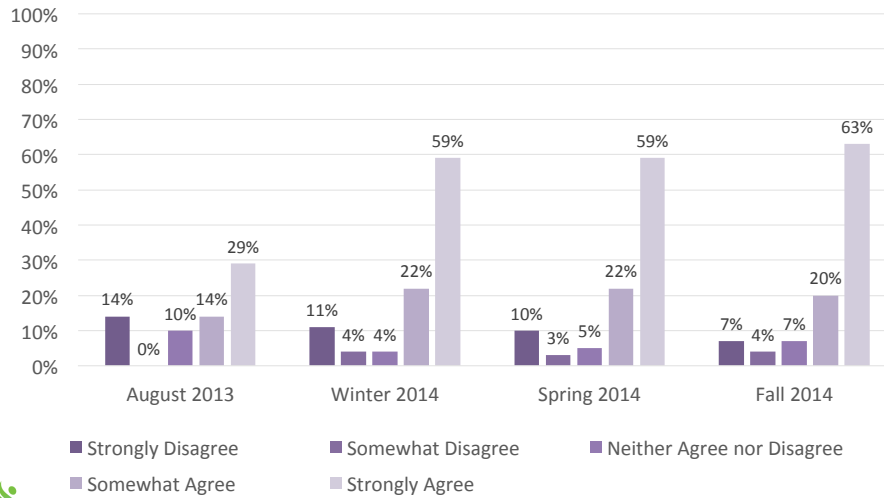
Helpfulness of responses to sciencequestions@pcori.org



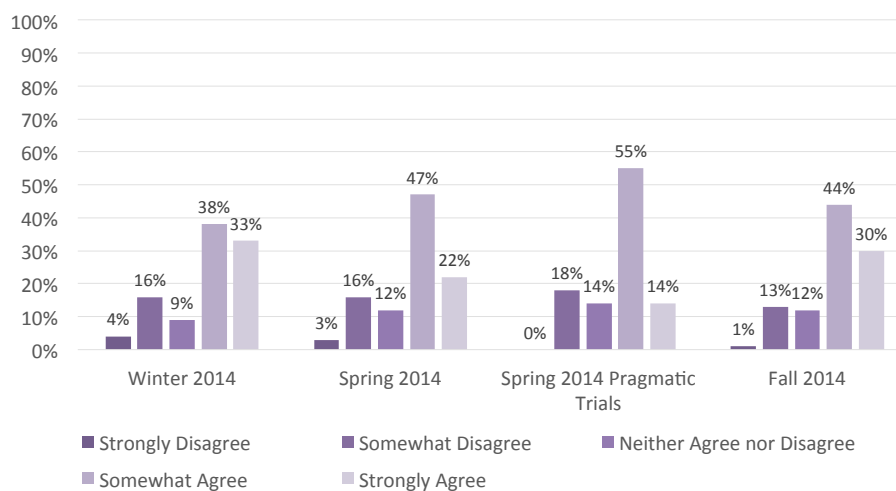
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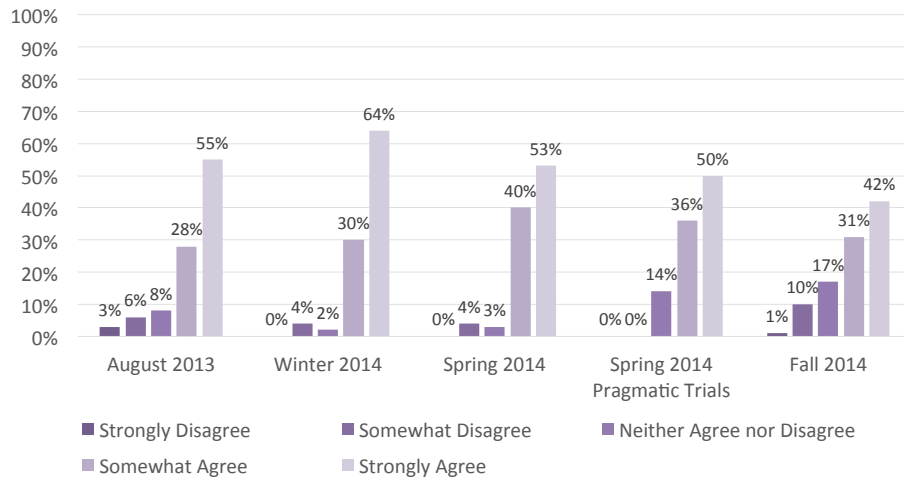
Helpfulness of telephone call with PCORI Science Team Member



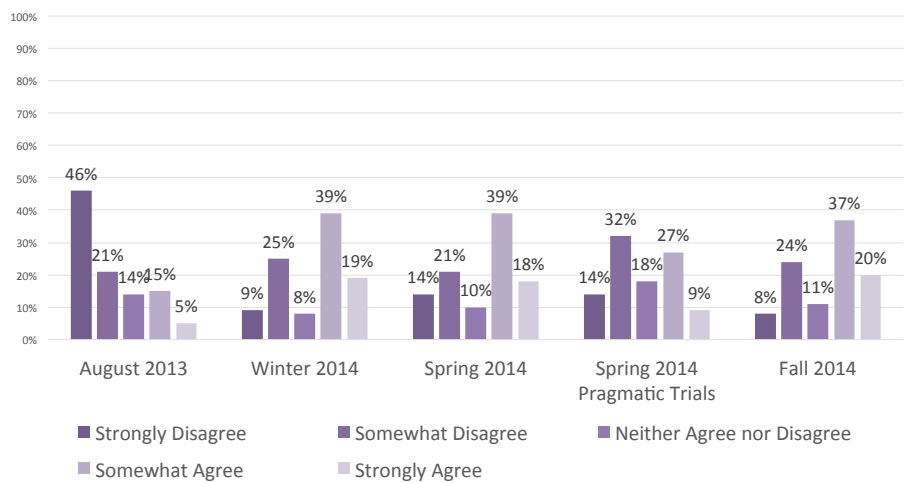
Easy to find resources on PCORI's website to assist in preparing my application



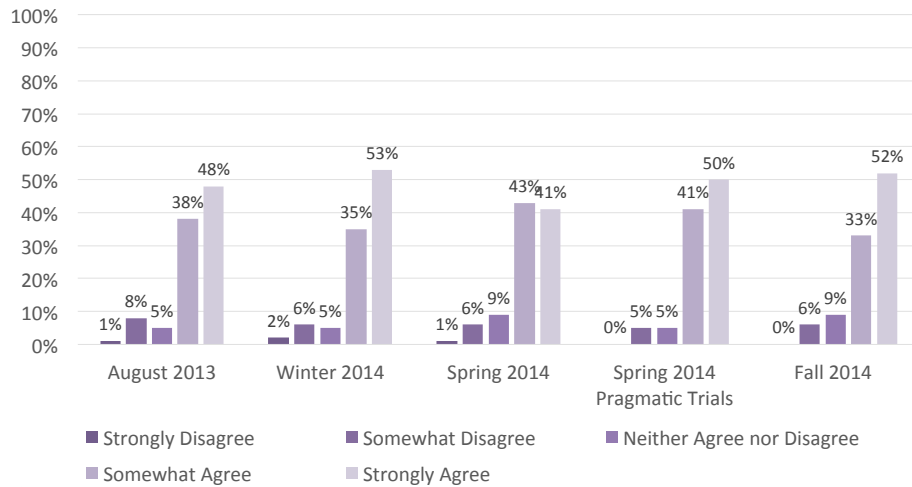
Understanding PCORI's requirement for annual direct costs



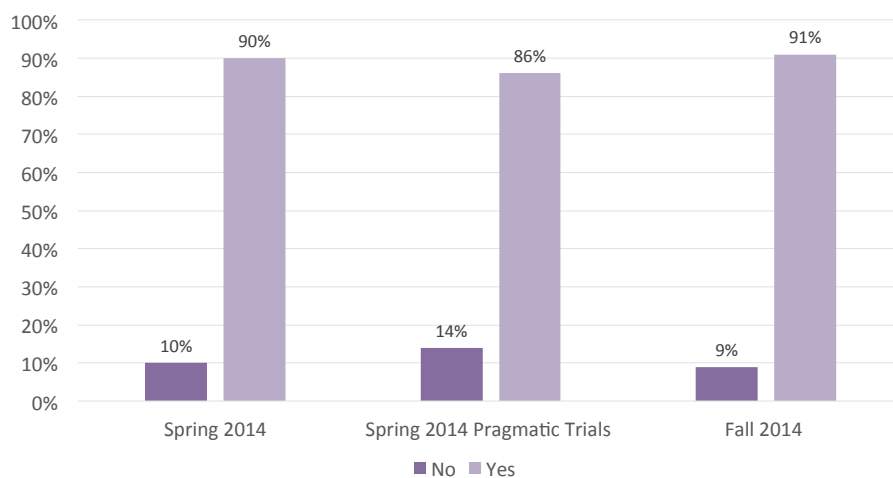
The PCORI Online Application System Was Easy to Use



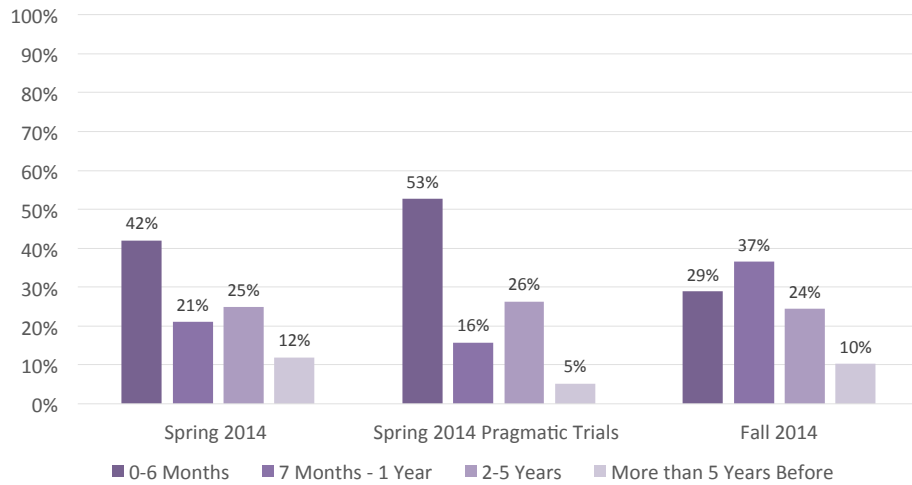
I understand PCORI's requirements for patient and other stakeholder engagement



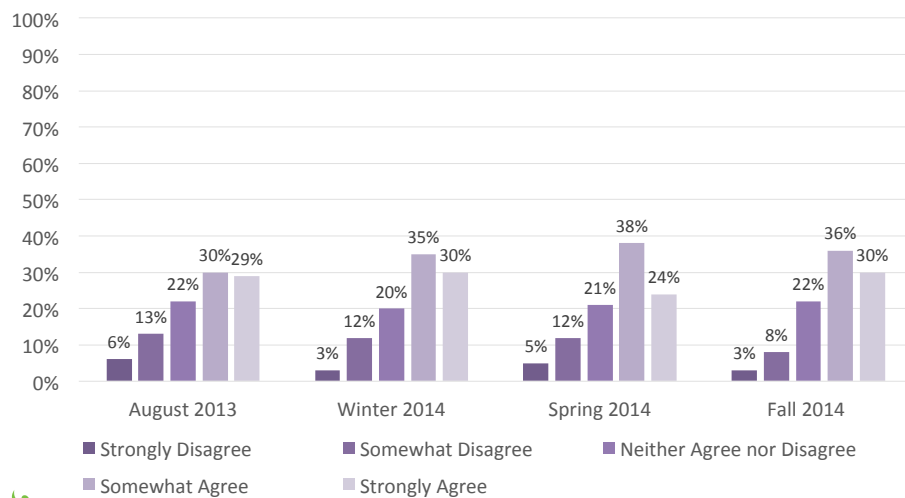
Establish a partnership prior to applying?



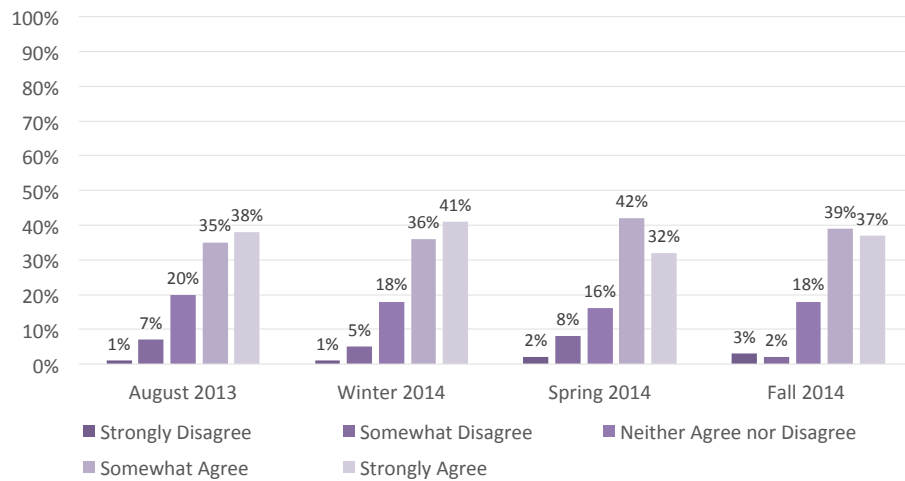
Duration of partnership prior to application



Review Panels Comprised of Scientists, Patients, and Other Stakeholders Help Ensure Funded Research Proposals are Methodologically Rigorous



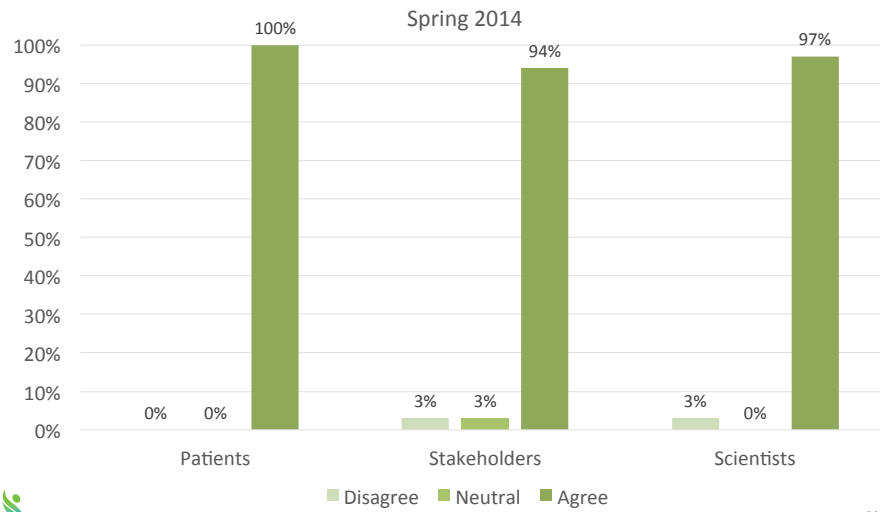
Review Panels Comprised of Scientists, Patients, and Other Stakeholders Help Ensure Funded Research Proposals are Important to Patients and Stakeholders



Reviewer Survey Results

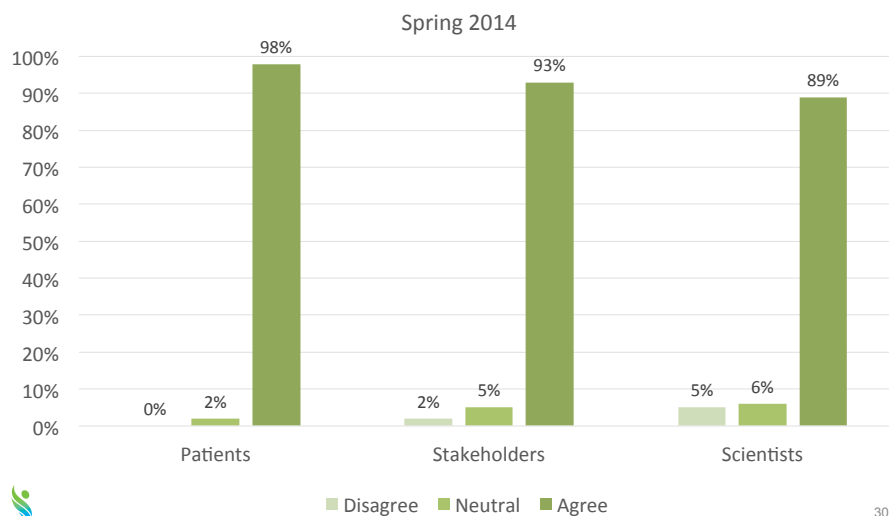


The Scientific Reviewers Provided Valuable Input During the Discussion



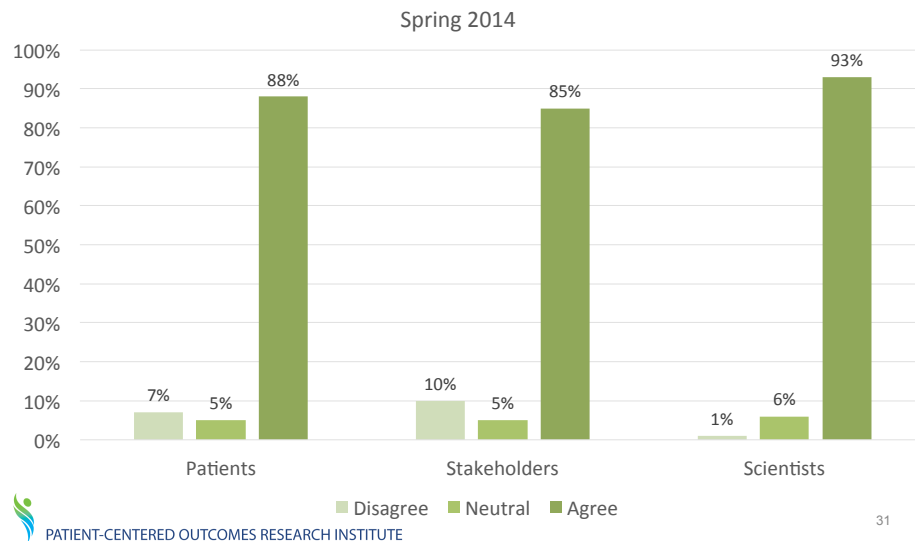
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The Patient/Stakeholder Reviewers Provided Valuable Input During the Discussion

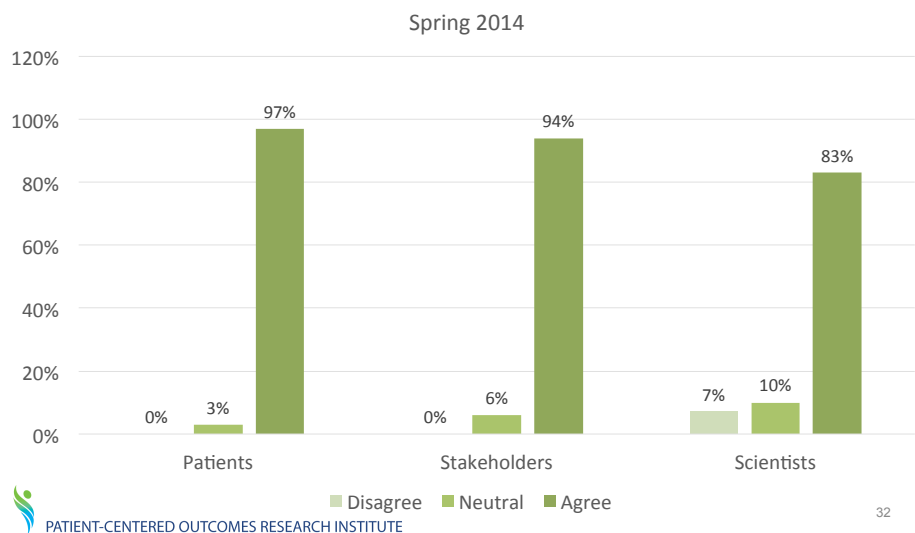


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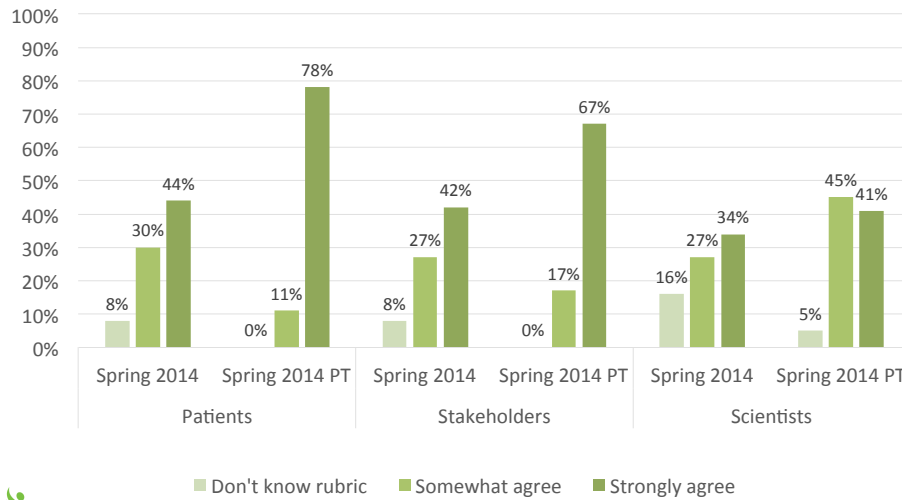
Scientific Reviewers were Receptive to Input from Patient and Stakeholder Reviewers



Patient/Stakeholder Reviewers were Receptive to Input from Scientific Reviewers



The Engagement Rubric was helpful in framing the discussion about engagement during the in-person merit review panel

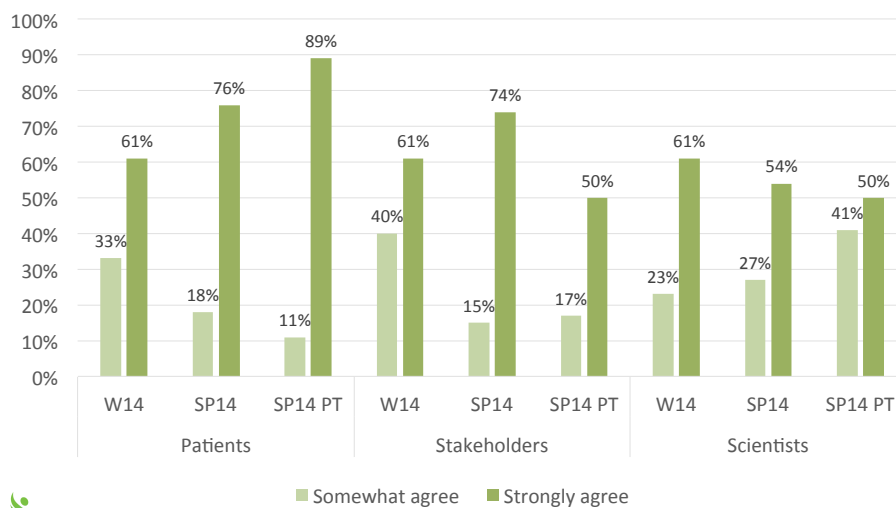


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NOTE: data may not add to 100%. Neutral and disagree responses not shown.

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Review Panels Comprised of Scientists, Patients, and Other Stakeholders Help Ensure Funded Research Proposals are Methodologically Rigorous

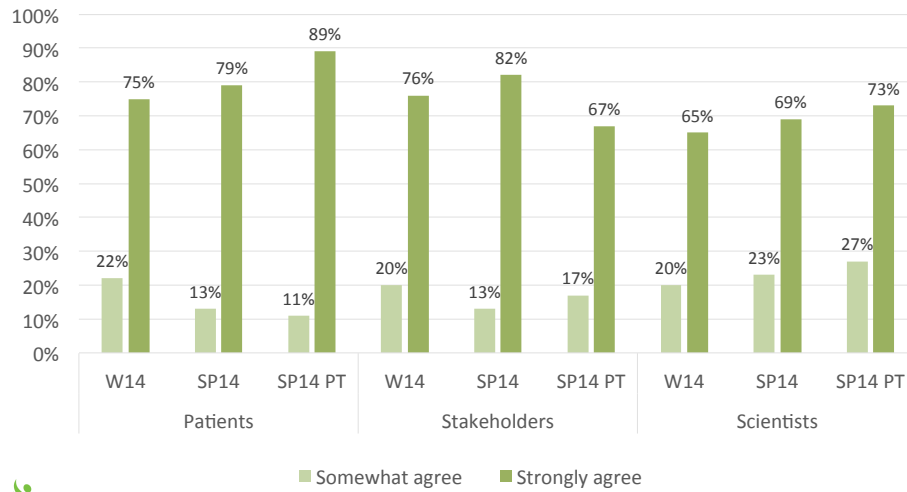


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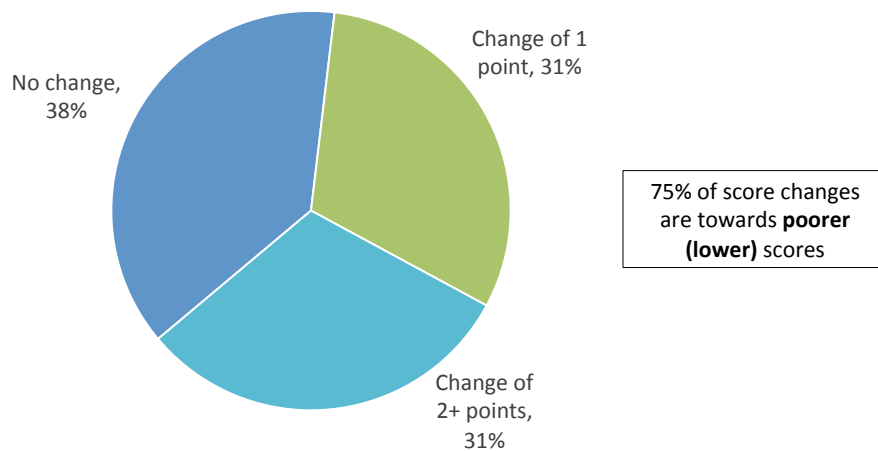
NOTE: data may not add to 100%. Neutral and disagree responses not shown.

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Review Panels Comprised of Scientists, Patients, and Other Stakeholders Help Ensure Funded Research Proposals are Important to Patients and Stakeholders



Changes in Review Scores after Discussion



Questions?

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Thank you!

Acknowledgements

- Scientist, Patient, and Stakeholder reviewers
- PCORI Applicants
- Stay current with email alerts at <http://www.pcori.org/home/signup> and follow us on Twitter @PCORI
- Please send questions or comments to: surveys@pcori.org



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