

**Exercise: Translating a Research Article into a Policy Brief**

- A. *Read the article “Maternal Depressive Symptoms and Children’s Receipt of Health Care in the First 3 Years of Life” and answer the following questions in your own words, using plain language.*

Maternal Depressive Symptoms and Children’s Receipt of Health Care in the First 3 Years of Life. (2005). *Pediatrics*, 115, 306-314. Cynthia Minkovitz, Donna Strobino, Daniel Scharfstein, William Hou, Tess Miller, Kamila Mistry, and Karen Swartz.

[http://www.jhsph.edu/bin/a/f/Maternal\\_Depressive\\_Symptoms.pdf](http://www.jhsph.edu/bin/a/f/Maternal_Depressive_Symptoms.pdf)

1. What was the purpose of the research?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What do you think are the most important findings for pediatricians? For insurers? Are they different for the two groups?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What are some possible policy implications of the findings?

- B. *Using the template on the next page, identify the main elements of a policy brief based on this research, with two different audiences in mind—pediatricians and public/private insurers.*

	<b>Pediatricians</b>	<b>Public and Private Insurers</b>
What is the <b>aim</b> of the policy brief?		
What do you know about the <b>audience</b> ?		
What is the best <b>hook</b> for the audience?		
What <b>background</b> information is necessary?		
What <b>data</b> will you include? How will you present it?		
What <b>recommendations</b> will you make?		
Can you come up with a catchy <b>title</b> ?		