III. Tool Used To Solicit TEPP Members' Research Gap Ratings via Email (May 19, 2010) (distributed to TEPP after first conference call, with item II above)

Prioritizing Draft Research Gaps

BCBSA TEC Pilot Project on Identifying Research Needs on *Comparative Effectiveness of Therapies for Clinically Localized Prostate Cancer*

INSTRUCTIONS: Using the criteria for rating research gaps (see separate document), please rate each research gap listed below in terms of Current Importance and Potential for Significant Health Impact. Please rate (not rank) the gaps from 1 to 5, using the following scoring system:

1=Less Important/Low Impact to 5=More Important/High Impact

Please return via email by **Wednesday, May 26, 2010**. Thank you.

Research Gap by PICOS Category	*Priority Rating:* Current Importance	*Priority Rating:* Potential for Significant Health Impact
Population		
• Identifying which patients to treat (e.g., those most likely to have aggressive cancer) and when		
• Understanding the natural history of the disease among men with screen-detected cancer		
Intervention		
• Having better evidence on advanced technologies such as IMRT, proton beam radiation, laparoscopic and robotic assisted prostatectomy, high-intensity focused ultrasound, cryotherapy		
• Identifying biomarkers to provide reliable estimates about prostate cancer aggressiveness and the relative effectiveness of treatments		
Comparison		
• Having better comparative evidence on alternative treatment strategies, such as surgery vs. radiotherapy vs. active surveillance		
• Making better treatment decisions that incorporate physician and patient preferences		
Outcomes		
• Investigating racial and other disparities		
• Obtaining better evidence on outcomes of treatment for patient subgroups (e.g., age, comorbidities, disease characteristics, racial/ethnic groups)		
Setting		
• Investigating treatment patterns by physician characteristics (e.g., specialty, years in practice, volume)		
• Investigating treatment patterns by institution (e.g., tertiary vs. community hospital)		