

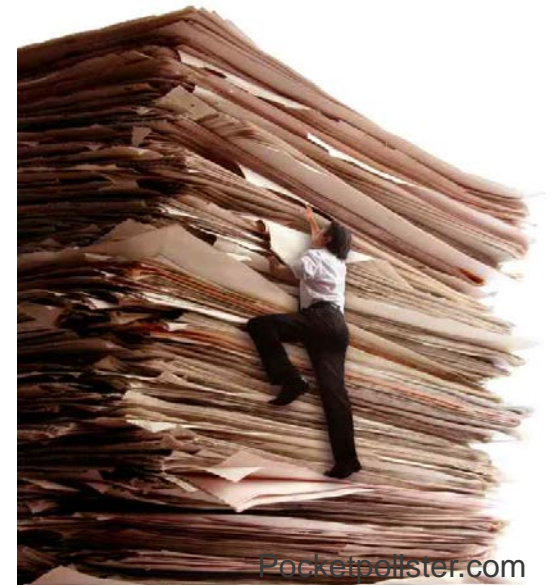


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Background

- Clinical practice guidelines are produced to provide health professionals with guidance about best practice.
- Uptake is determined partly by implementation characteristics of the guideline
- Continued variation in service delivery however, points to the need for “implementable guidelines”
- The diverse nature of general practice makes “implementable guidelines” even more important.
- Existing tools to assist developers:
 - Appraisal of Guidelines Research and Evaluation tool (AGREE II)
 - Guideline Implementability Appraisal (GLIA) tool
 - Guideline Implementability Framework



Influences on implementation

Supporting resources

Stakeholder involvement

Rigour of development

Presentation and format

Endorsement

Accessibility

Specificity of the intended readership

Consideration of comorbidities



Aim

To determine whether current clinical practice guidelines developed for use by Australian GP contain attributes likely facilitate implementation upon initial inspection.

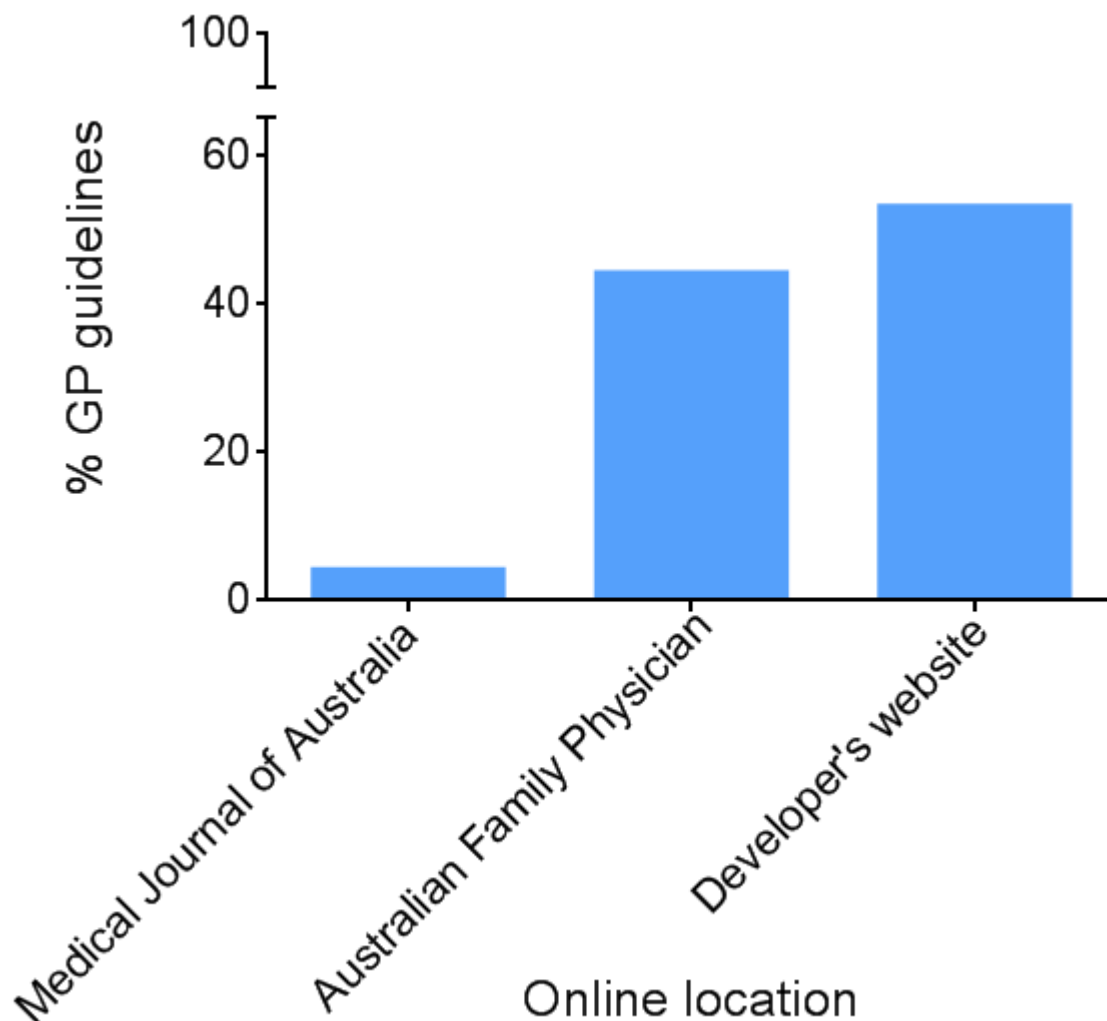
Methods

- Audit of the NHMRC Clinical Guidelines Portal
- Filtered for:
 - General practitioners as an “intended user”
 - Primary and preventive care within the “health care setting”
 - Included guidelines which listed GPs as a user group
 - Published between 2007-2011

The screenshot shows the NHMRC Clinical Practice Guidelines Portal website. The browser address bar displays www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au. The page features the Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) logo on the left and a banner for the 'CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES PORTAL' on the right. Below the banner, there are navigation tabs for 'Guideline Portal' and 'Guideline Register', and a menu with links for 'Home', 'News', 'About us', 'Contact', and 'Help'. A search section includes a 'Text Search' field with the text 'general practitioner' and a 'Search by ID' field. A 'Browse by' dropdown menu is open, showing various filter categories such as 'Intended user', 'All guidelines', 'Condition', 'Developer', 'Evidence documented', 'Funder', 'Guideline format', 'Healthcare setting', 'Intended user', 'Life stage', 'Method of development', 'NHMRC approved', and 'Publication year'. The 'Intended user' option is highlighted. A 'Health Tracker newsletter' sign-up form is visible on the right, with fields for 'Name' and 'Email' and a 'Subscribe' button. The page content includes a heading 'The clinical practice guidelines portal' and introductory text about the portal's purpose.

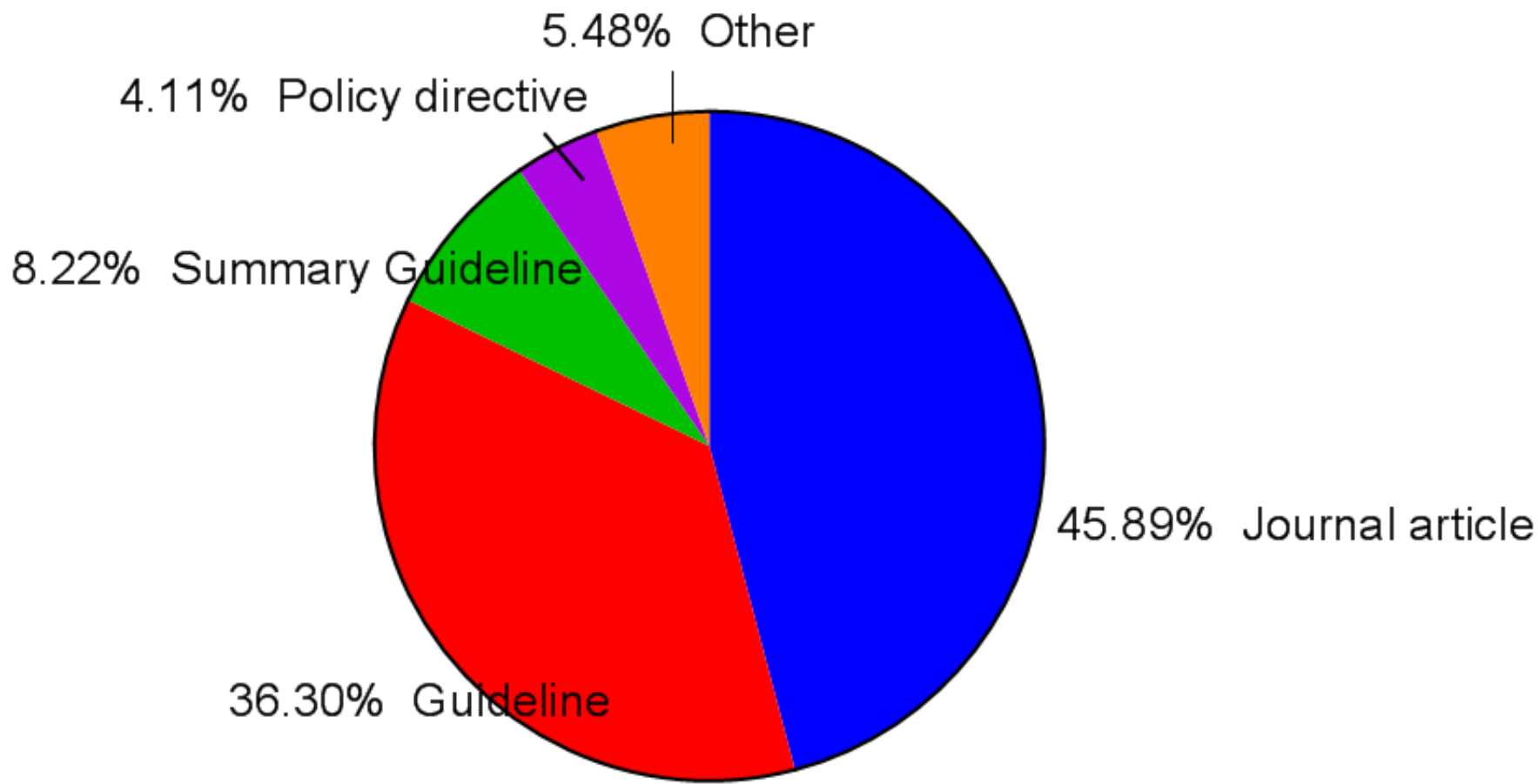


Online accessibility



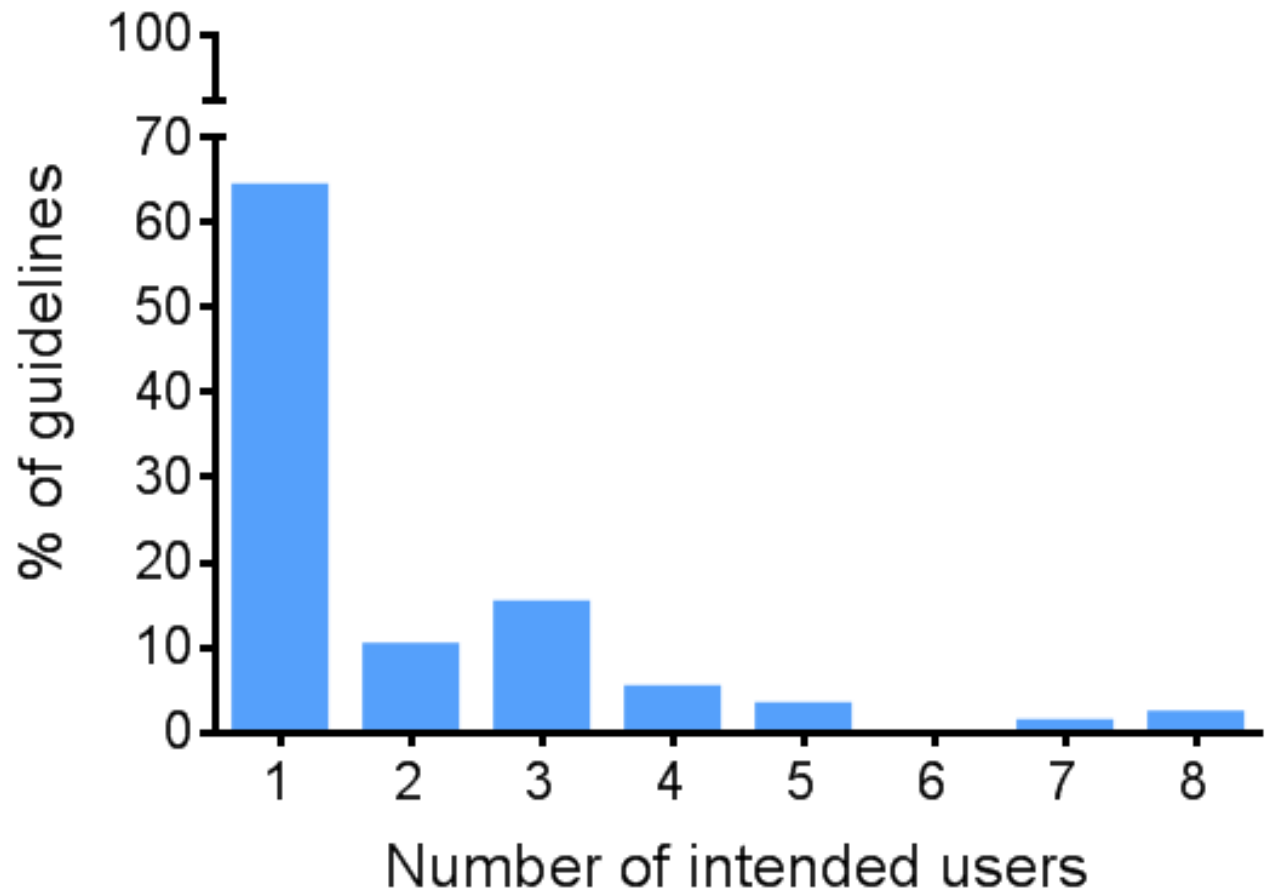


Presented in a format that is easy to read



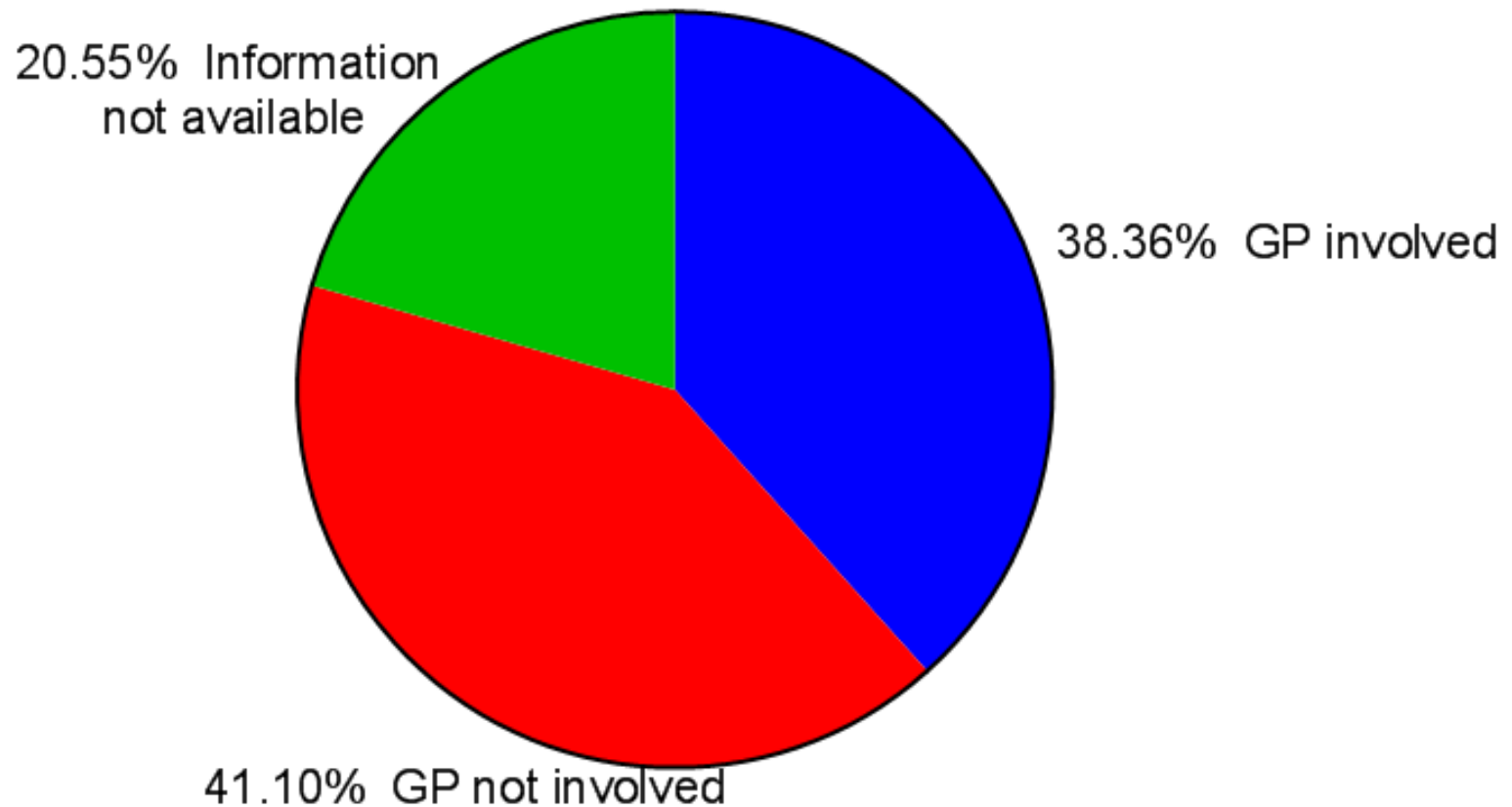


Prepared specifically for a GP audience





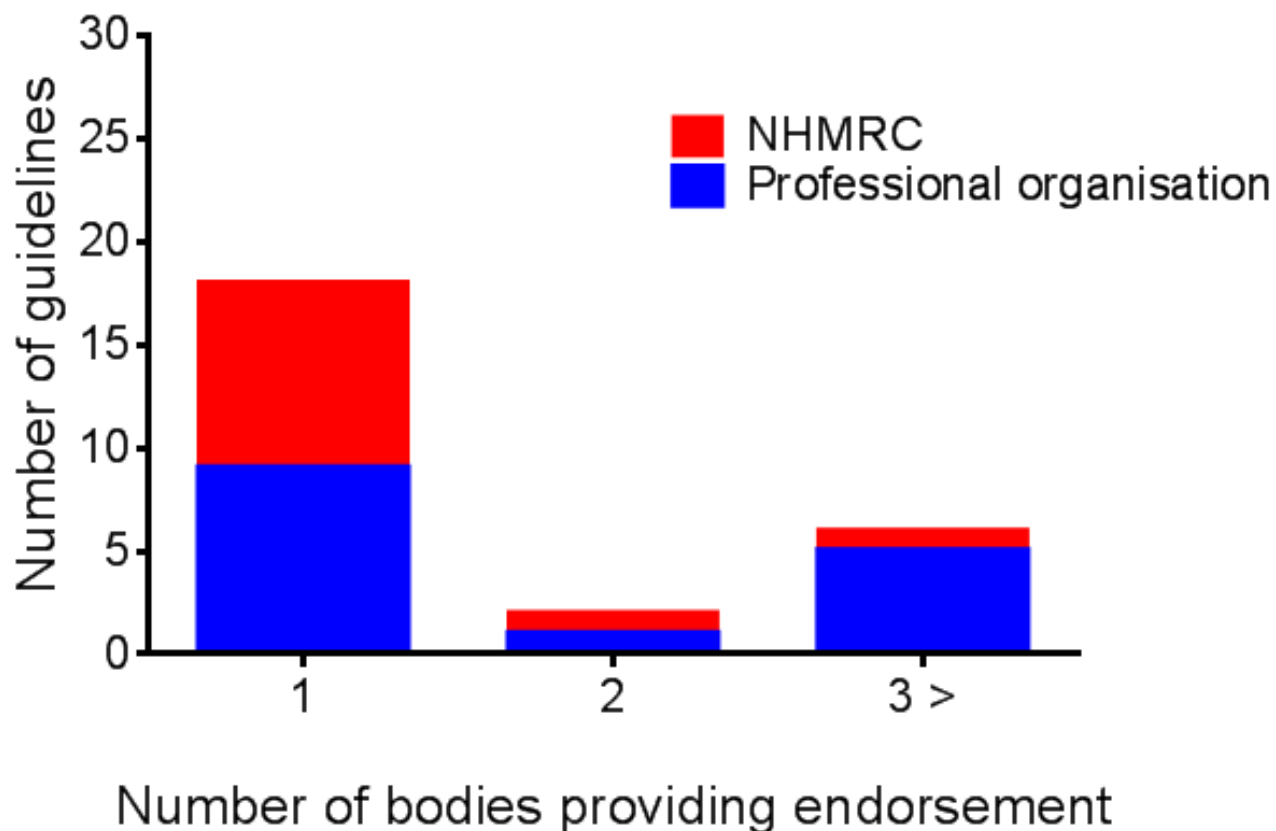
GP involvement during guideline development





Endorsement or approval of guidelines from reputed bodies

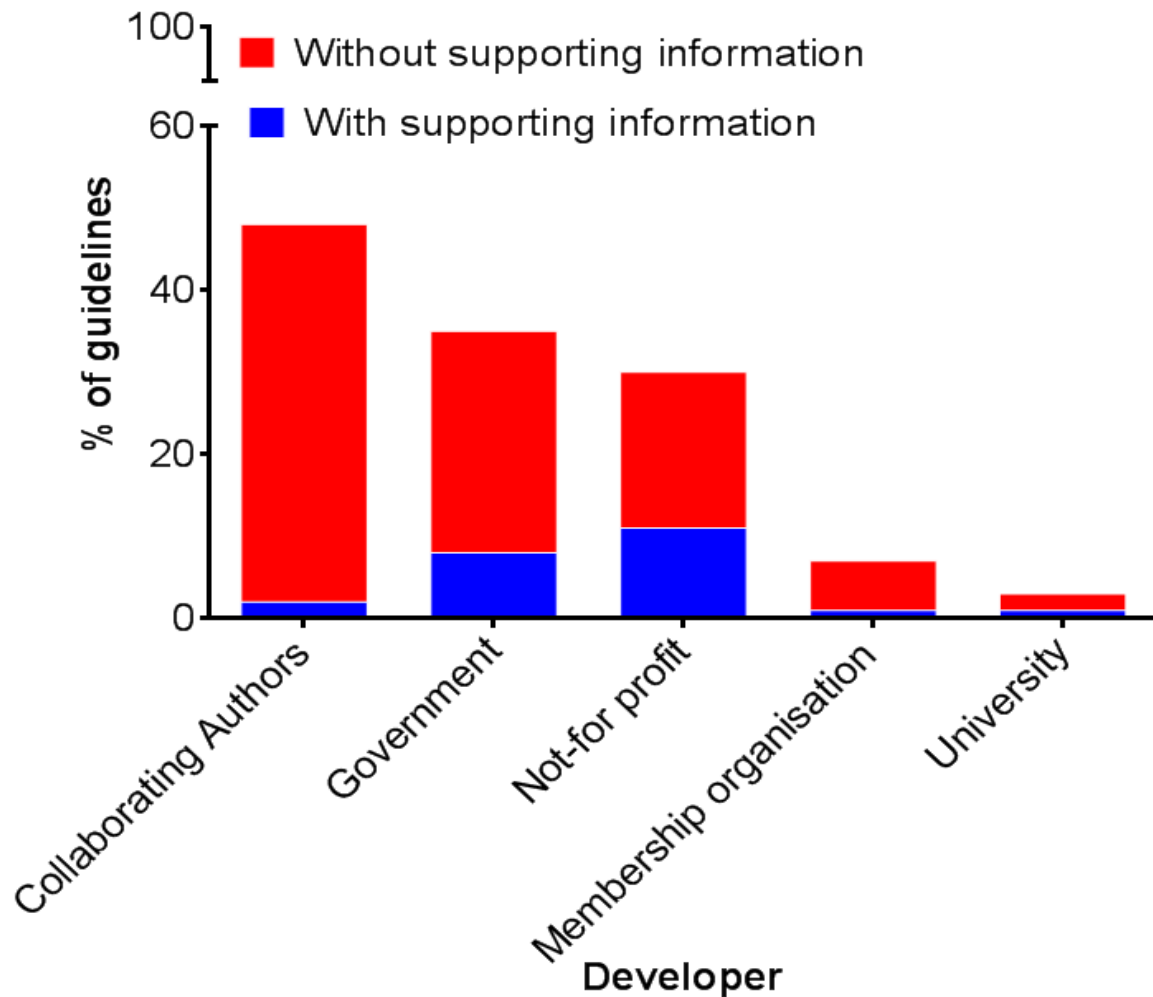
Endorsement or approval was obtained for 25% of guidelines





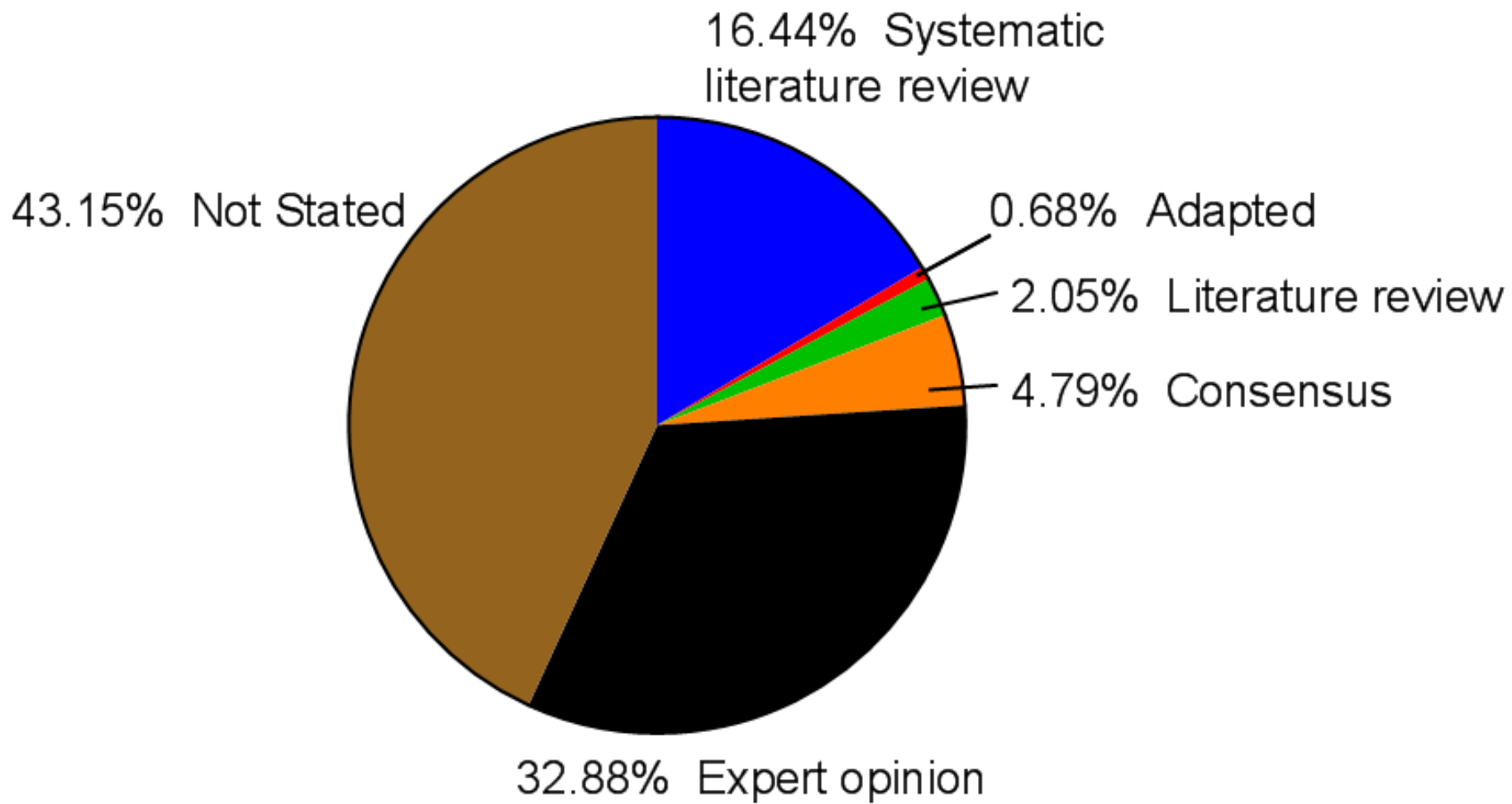
Availability of resources to support guideline uptake

Supporting resources available for 23% of guidelines





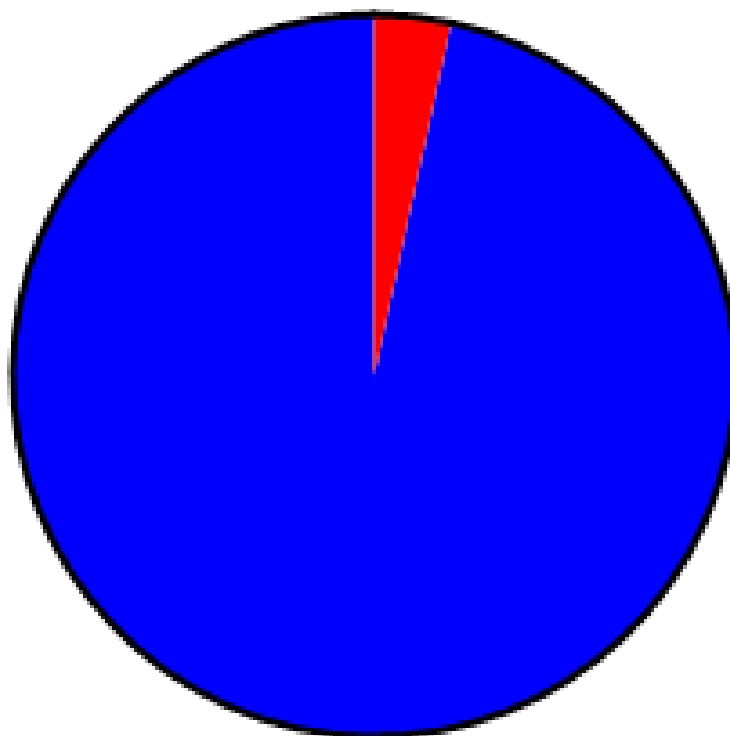
Use of evidence-based methods





Consideration of comorbidities

3.42% Focus on co-morbidities



96.58% Focus on a single condition



Conclusions

- ◆ Guidelines fared highly on approaches relating to accessibility, format and specificity to a GP audience
- ◆ Average use of approaches such as GP involvement and endorsement
- ◆ Poor use of supporting resources, evidence-based methods and addressing comorbidities
- ◆ The ability to use best practice approaches may reflect resource availability of guideline developers.
- ◆ Need for an evidence-based guideline implementability framework to assist guideline developers



Next steps

- Comparison with newer guidelines – NHMRC released new standards for guidelines which includes implementation
- Field test guidelines for usability





Questions?