

**Nomine:**

Marcela Torres-Amaya

**Biography**

My name is Marcela Torres has a Bachelor's degree in Pharm D, a Master's degree in clinical epidemiology and a PhD in public health. I have been working for the National University of Colombia in the development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines. I have coordinated the development of guidelines for the Colombian Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Scientific Societies, Panamerican Health Organization and two teaching hospitals.

I have supported the Colombian Ministry of Health with the development of tools for guideline implementation such as the Manual for guideline implementation of health providers and algorithms for guideline adaptation and implementation. Also, I have facilitated workshops for health providers and governmental authorities of Colombia.

I work as well with the Panamerican Health Organization as a consultant for the Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health Department. My work involved technical assistance to the governmental authorities with the aim of strengthening capacity building in guideline development and implementation. I facilitated workshops in Mexico, Panama, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay and El Salvador. I provide methodological support for the development of clinical practice guidelines in Panama, Dominican Republic and the Latin American Center of Perinatology, Women and Reproductive Health. We developed a handbook for the strengthening of national guideline programs which is a tool for the countries that seek to create and improve their guidelines development and implementation process.

I have been attending GIN conferences for several years and participated in the inception of the GIN Iberoamerican branch and supported its activities ever since.

**Vision**

Clinical practice guidelines have become a key tool for decision making of health systems. Many low and middle-income countries are eager of developing and implementing guidelines, but they need support in building technical capabilities from the methodological and policy standpoint.

The Guidelines International Network has been known as one of the leaders in methods for guideline development and implementation. I considerate that GIN has the tools to bring together guideline developers, governmental entities and guideline users. This

would allow to improve methods in order to acknowledge the needs of the users and develop high quality guidelines that are easier to implement in a timely manner.

All the countries are moving forward to offer quality universal health care, with high standards and with safety, efficiency, and equity, recognizing developments in technology, using evidence for assessing their benefits and risks. In this way, with the support of GIN all guideline actors will be able to share knowledge and both successful and unsuccessful experiences, and offer quality care despite each country limitations.

One aspect very important for guideline development and implementation is the creation of policies that give support, institutionalization and sustainability to their process so the guideline programs can keep up over the time. I considerate GIN, as well, can contribute with knowledge to guideline users at different levels in how to achieve these policies.