



Welcome to the April 2020 edition of enGINE! Contents include:

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A word from the Chair...

The world has changed very rapidly in the last few weeks. We are all feeling the impact of COVID-19 in one way or another, and the G-I-N board has been meeting regularly to take into account the impact on our collaboration activities.

As an organisation that routinely operates remotely, with staff based at home, G-I-N is well placed to continue day to day work as normal. Travel has, however, been affected around the world and we have sadly taken the decision to cancel the Toronto conference in the Autumn. This is the right decision to help reduce exposure to the virus and to keep everyone safe but will be a disappointment to many who look forward to the annual conference.

We are planning to organise a number of virtual events, possibly including plenary-style webinars. There will be more information on plans in the next couple of weeks, but we welcome any innovative ideas from members about how G-I-N can best continue to support collaboration. There are already a range of really useful resources related to COVID-19 on the [G-I-N website](#), so please do take a look and as, always, feedback and additions are very welcome.

Please do look after yourselves and your families.



Gillian Leng, G-I-N Chair

Chief Executive Officer's Update

Dear colleagues,

It would have been very hard for us to imagine at the beginning of this year, just how much the world would change in a matter of weeks, but changed, it has. My thoughts are with you all, as you and your organisations work tirelessly to support the overburdened health services around the world and implement some of the early learnings around the containment and treatment of this new virus. We set up a COVID-19 resource page, which we add to daily – please continue to share links to any resources that would be helpful to other members.

It was a sad time this week, when I had to announce that we had taken the decision to cancel the 2020 conference, but we knew that it was the right and responsible decision. We will miss our annual opportunity to bring the network together and enjoy the valuable time that we always share, but we are keen to hear your ideas for online opportunities for sharing information and learning together. Now is our time to do things differently, while looking forward to the second Global Evidence Summit next year.

Mary Nix, Chair of G-I-N/NA and I took the decision together to cancel the GIN/NA Open Space meeting that was due to take place on 13th March, after monitoring the spread of COVID-19 in the time leading up to the event. We were both disappointed, after the success of the event last year, but it was the right thing to do. I give my sincere thanks to the Steering Group of GIN/NA, as well as The American Psychological Association, who had worked so hard in planning the meeting. We remain hopeful that we may have another opportunity to present this meeting.

This was followed shortly afterwards by my cancelling the G-I-N Board meeting, which was due to take place at the NICE offices in Manchester on 19th and 20th March. We did, however, switch the board meeting to an online event and reduced the length to two half days to take account of the time zones of our Trustees. I am pleased to report that we had a successful meeting and that our work programme for this year is continuing as planned:

- [Library to be refreshed](#), then registry to be created
- [INGUIDE training programme](#) remains on track for launch in September
- Purchase of membership management system, in order to make networking & communication easier
- New website to be planned
- Re-branding to be explored

Additionally, the budget for 2020 – 21 was approved, along with the Reserves policy and the 2020 conference was discussed at length, along with our fallback options, which have now been implemented.

As the G-I-N staff already worked from home, our work is not as impacted as others will have experienced. We are working more flexibly to adapt to the different challenges that this has brought, but we remain here to support you. As a result of feedback from the Regional Community Chairs, we have set up a 3 month trial subscription to GoTo Webinar, so any Working Group or Regional Community that would like to set up any training sessions or information webinars, please contact us for support.

Stay safe, healthy, strong and be kind to others. We will get through this challenging time, together.

Elaine Harrow, Chief Executive Officer



2020 Conference Announcement

We have continued to closely monitor the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and had committed to communicating the decision about whether to continue with our conference plans by 12th May 2020. We appreciate that an earlier decision would be helpful, thus have been working towards this.

Regretfully, after very careful consideration we, along with our local host, McMaster University have made the decision to cancel the 2020 Toronto conference. Although this has been a difficult time, resulting in a tough decision, we were unanimous in agreeing that this was the only safe decision to make in these unprecedented and unpredictable circumstances. The wellbeing and safety of all our participants, members and guideline colleagues around the world is our primary concern.

However, we have continued to work with McMaster and the conference venue, in order to agree dates for the 2022 conference and we are delighted to announce that the G-I-N conference will take place in Toronto, from 21-24 September 2022.

We are currently considering options to host webinars of how COVID-19 impacts on activities related to guidelines during the 2020 dates. This is not intended to be a conference replacement, however, I would ask you to hold these dates in your diary in the meantime and encourage you to submit your suggestions regarding suitable topics, rapid reviews and guidelines to be included.

The planning for the Global Evidence Summit 2 (GES 2) is well under way, and will take place in Prague, Czech Republic from 4-8 October 2021. The Summit is being jointly organised by G-I-N, in collaboration with Cochrane, the Campbell Collaboration and the Joanna Briggs Institute. Further information can be found [here](#). We hope that you will be able to participate in the sessions that we organise later in the year and will look forward to seeing you at a G-I-N Conference in the future. In the meantime, please stay safe and well.

COVID-19 resources

We are continuing to monitor reports of the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and we want to let you know what G-I-N is here to support your membership needs as normal and to help you communicate your messages to the guideline community. G-I-N staff are all based from home and can continue to advise and assist you with any G-I-N related questions or queries.



As a network, we are also keen to keep collaborating and sharing information and updates relating to COVID-19. Please do share important or interesting updates with us as they happen, and we can work together to keep our network as up to date as possible. Please remember to tag @gin_member on Twitter, so that we can push your information out.

We now have a web page dedicated to providing COVID-19 resources and information. The page can be viewed [here](#). These resources are available to everyone so please feel free to share with your own network. If there are any additional resources that would be helpful to include here please [email Jenna](#) and she can add and share them accordingly.

Additional Resources Available - In light of the ongoing pandemic, Evidence Prime offers **free GRADEpro licenses for all COVID-19-related guideline projects to any interested party.**

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This allows the COVID-19 teams to use all commercial extensions of [GRADEpro](#) free of charge and without a time limit, including the PanelVoice module for **holding remote, virtual guideline panels**. The complete announcement is [here](#).

PanelVoice is a GRADEpro module addressing the challenges of holding guideline panel meetings remotely and can re-enable projects that had to be postponed owing to COVID-19 pandemics. If you would prefer not to wait but rather hold the "meeting" virtually using a modified Delphi approach to build consensus and make recommendations, you can do that with PanelVoice. Evidence Prime has made [PanelVoice available free of charge](#) for all projects impacted by COVID-19 pandemics (regardless of their topic).



Please [contact us](#) for more details or to apply for any of the free COVID-19 offers.

MAGIC app

Did you know that MAGICapp is now available to develop Living Guidelines and is being offered at no cost to those developing and publishing COVID-19 guidelines, who cannot afford a license fee? Find out more [here](#).

Home working tips



In these times, when many of you may be routinely working from home for the first time, we thought that as we are “experts” in this area, the G-I-N team would share some of our tips with you. Speaking from over 7 years’ experience, I have made all the mistakes and have tried to learn from them! Sitting for too long leads to back, neck and shoulder problems – now is not the time to be seeking a course of physio – prevention is better than cure. Keep moving



and taking breaks from your desk.

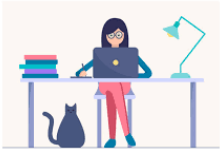
A sit-stand desk is a great option to alternate your position and stop you from seizing up! Standing meetings are great – I often stand on one leg, then alternate – you would need to ask my colleagues if they had guessed!! If you are lucky enough to have a desk like this, then I totally recommend an anti-fatigue mat – it really makes all the difference; it is much more comfortable than standing on a normal floor and it encourages small movements which will keep you more active and can help blood circulation.

As permanent homeworkers, all staff at G-I-N have had the option to have a sit-stand desk.

I also recommend a short, fast walk during a break – fresh air is great for clearing the mind and promoting creativity afterwards. Sometimes, I even use this opportunity to catch up with some of the team.

Finally, don’t forget to drink water during the day – it can be helpful to fill up a bottle, with a lid, morning and afternoon and keep the bottle in sight.

A useful website is <http://www.getbritainstanding.org/> This site gives tips as well as providing links to published research and guidance.



If you are a manager, managing a team remotely for the first time, don't panic – from experience, there are far fewer distractions at home and staff are more likely to be more productive, rather than less. Keep in touch with your team – there is such a range of platforms, that no-one should ever feel isolated or abandoned. We use various forms of video technology as well as instant chat to keep in touch. More than ever, people need flexibility at the moment as they juggle family commitments – don't be afraid to offer more flexible working – for office workers, it often doesn't make any difference when a job gets done, so if some of your staff prefer to work in the evening, perhaps after children have been put to bed, then ease the pressure on them and offer this. This can bring benefits to the organisation as well as the individuals.

My top tip for home working would be that if you use common (family) space in your home, try to keep it tidy and not let your work take over your home. Clear it away in the evening and ensure you close your computer down.



Here are some other tips from the team – we hope you find these useful!



“If possible, have a separate space to work in, to separate work and home life – I'm lucky to have a home office set up” – *Allison*



“Remember to be kind to yourself – many of us are working home and juggling childcare and home schooling in this situation – do what you can, when you can” – *Jenna*



“Try to get some exercise at lunchtime and don't keep snacks in your workspace!” - *Anne*



“My best advice is to take regular breaks. It's very simple to get lost in something and then you find you have a sore back and eyes. That would never happen in an office; there would be too many distractions” – *Sara*



“You might find it helpful to set an alarm in your calendar to remind you to move away from the computer. It's easy to become engrossed in your work and not realise you are thirsty, hungry or haven't taken a screen break” - *Richard*

Partner Updates



Cochrane Learning Live is a series of monthly webinars open to everyone.

Click [here](#) to access past webinars and learn about how to register for upcoming webinars.

Covidence is a complete systematic review management system that streamlines the literature review process providing a centralised, consolidated view of all review activity within an organisation.



They are a non-profit service working in partnership with Cochrane to improve the production and use of systematic reviews for health and well-being around the world.

When you log into Covidence, you're joining a vibrant and growing global community of librarians, researchers and students who are creating a new way of translating research into trustworthy evidence to drive high-quality evidence-informed decision-making.

G-I-N members are eligible for a discount of up to 20% when signing up to join Covidence,

Email <mailto:hello@covidence.org> for more information.



DynaMed is an evidence-based, clinical decision support tool that provides

healthcare providers with the most useful information at the point of care. Every day, DynaMed editors monitor over 500 medical journals and evidence sources, evaluate new articles for clinical relevance and scientific validity, and provide ongoing synthesis of the best current evidence. This process of Systematic Literature Surveillance, designed to provide the best available evidence to help answer clinical questions during practice, has also been found to be substantially helpful for guideline developers for evidence identification, critical appraisal, updating and dissemination.

The collaboration will provide up to 5 complimentary subscriptions (including internet access and mobile app) for each G-I-N member organisation. To take advantage of DynaMed's complimentary subscriptions for your organisation please click [here](#).



Enroll in the International Guideline Credentialing & Certification (INGUIDE) Online Programme

The Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) and McMaster University are excited to launch INGUIDE, the first online Practice Guideline training programme in September 2020.

INGUIDE training focuses on implementing modern, evidence-based research in guideline development, planning, implementation, evaluation and updating. The goals of INGUIDE are to improve the quality of practice guidelines and to improve efficiency throughout the guideline development process.

Two successive INGUIDE courses will be available for participation from September, on an online basis. INGUIDE Program Level 1: Guideline Panel Member, focuses on teaching the basics of core guideline concepts, and INGUIDE Program Level 2: Guideline Methodologist training. This specifically focuses on teaching the comprehensive and practical steps for developing guidelines.

Enrolling in Guideline Methodologist training will automatically register trainees for Level 1: Guideline Panel Member training without any additional cost. Additional training for Guideline Panel Chairs is in development, however, not yet available for registration.

Prices for these online courses will be announced soon. For more information please visit inquire.org.

Library project update

The library project has now been going on since October and we have made lots of progress.

Firstly, a big thank you to all our member organisations and the G-I-N secretariat for doing such a great job of sorting out the broken links and out of date material on the existing G-I-N library. It is looking in much better shape.

One of our Associate Members and a collaborator with G-I-N since 2014, DynaMed/EBSCO, is developing an open access replacement for the current G-I-N library. We are very grateful to them for stepping up and taking on this task. The prototype which will be faster and easier to use looks great. Given the competing priorities on all our time at the moment, it will be a couple of months until our new G-I-N library is launched. Watch this space...

The existing, cleaned up, library will remain on the G-I-N website until we have the new library tested and up and running. To complement this, we have produced an additional page on the website [library links](#) providing short descriptions and links to free to access sources of information about guidelines. We hope this is useful for our members. If you have any ideas for other sites that should be included, please let me know (sara@g-i-n.net). There is also a short survey on the page, please complete this too.

And finally, we haven't forgotten about the proposed registry of guidelines in development. This will be part of Phase II of the project and will provide a fantastic opportunity for even more collaborative working. We envisage that this will link seamlessly on the new platform.

Sara Twaddle, Senior Project Manager



Working Group & Regional Community updates

Welcome to our new Chairs!



Chair – Etienne Ngeh
(kesekey2008@yahoo.com)



Vice Chair – Bridget Nwagbara
(bridgetakudo@yahoo.com)



Secretary – Awuor Ponge
(awuorponge@gmail.com)

 Guidelines Collaboration



Co-Chair – Rebecca Morgan
(rlmorqa@gmail.com)



Co-Chair – Toju Ogunremi
(toju.ogunremi@canada.ca)



Accelerated Guideline Development

As a complement to the COVID-19 dedicated webpage the AGD Working Group propose:

- To connect people and collaborate
- To collect your experience and share experiences

Providing information on rapid guideline providers will enable better networking and communication amongst the group as well as a better understanding of your needs at this time. Please share any guidelines with us and any additional resources that you think may be useful. We are very much looking forward to hearing from you!



Sophie Blanchard - s.blanchard@has-sante.fr

Important Dates – Coming Soon

Event	Date
Global Evidence Summit 2	4 – 8 October 2021
G-I-N Conference Toronto	21 – 24 September 2022
Trustee Elections & AGM	Details and deadlines will be communicated soon

Newsletter Production & Editorial Team



We would love to hear your feedback on enGINE, especially your thoughts on the frequency, layout and general content?

Any additional general feedback you would like to give would also be welcome!

Please forward your feedback via email to:

[Allison Smith](#) or [Jenna Docherty](#)