

## WS01

### Evidence tables: How to make the data shareable?

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**Workshop type:** round table

**Background:** The first step in undertaking systematic reviews to inform health professionals and decision-makers about interventions or actions that affect health is to identify and critically appraise the existing literature.

Systematic reviews require capacity and resources, and are time consuming. To reduce duplication of effort, existing reviews should therefore be used whenever possible and updated if necessary. A standard format for summarising the appraised literature would be the easiest way to achieve this.

The aims of the workshop are to promote the concept of information sharing and usability of a minimum dataset for summarizing the appraised literature, using templates developed by the Evidence Tables Working Group (ETWG), and to set up a database. The templates identify the minimum data abstracted from a single study in order to allow consistent comparison across studies and to inform a group process in evidence synthesis.

#### Short description of the workshop:

- 10 minute presentation of the ETWG templates for summarising studies addressing interventions and diagnostic questions.
- 30 minute group work. The attendees will be split into two groups:
  - group 1 will summarise an intervention study using the template and instructions
  - group 2 will complete the template on diagnostic questions.
- 20 minute round table discussion about the usefulness of the templates and the difficulties encountered in completing them.
- 15 minute discussion (with presentation support) on the usefulness of developing a user-friendly database that will include the summaries – prepared using ETWG templates - of articles reviewed by GIN members.
- 15 minute round table discussion to define database requirements that will meet the needs of literature reviewers.

**Target groups:** This workshop will be of most interest to those who deal with literature reviews (i.e. guideline or HTA developers, researchers,..) and those who wish to adapt work done by others.

#### Main goals of the workshop:

- To train the attendees in using the templates and to obtain feedback on template clarity and ease of use.
- To discuss the proposal of setting up a database and obtain attendee feedback.
- To pursue the work on defining the final database structure and requirements (i.e. agreeing on minimum requirements that should be considered).