

About the presenter.

Dr. Rodrigo Pardo MD, Msc is a neurologist and clinical epidemiologist at the National University in Colombia. His work is focused in development of clinical guidelines in a developing country and in making clear the critical points in the whole process. Dr. Pardo is leading a regional model in Spanish language to help new developers achieving success.

Abstract.

Local and regional variables are important in the clinical guidelines developing process.

It is not only the issue of scarce resources, but also the conception of the health system itself and the role of governments and local leaders in prioritizing the topics and taking advantage of models and guides built in developed countries. Quality is a relatively new concept in our health systems but it will not be a reality while inequity persists. The gap between issuing recommendations and implementing them must recognize cultural, economical and social barriers, as much as the interests of different stakeholders. Guidelines adaptation is a controversial issue among very well recognized groups. This option must be carefully considered, taking into account the time, available resources, perspective of the recommendations, technical capacities and willingness of the people involved. Several guidelines have been adopted as a norm or law in Latin American countries. In that way recommendations have the force of law. This perspective reveals difficulties in dealing with evidence based models, capacity building, and the way in which conflicts of interest are managed within different systems. Guidelines must be closely articulated within the health system where they are going to be implemented. Objectives and goals of a comprehensive program are discussed, and its principal obstacles outlined.