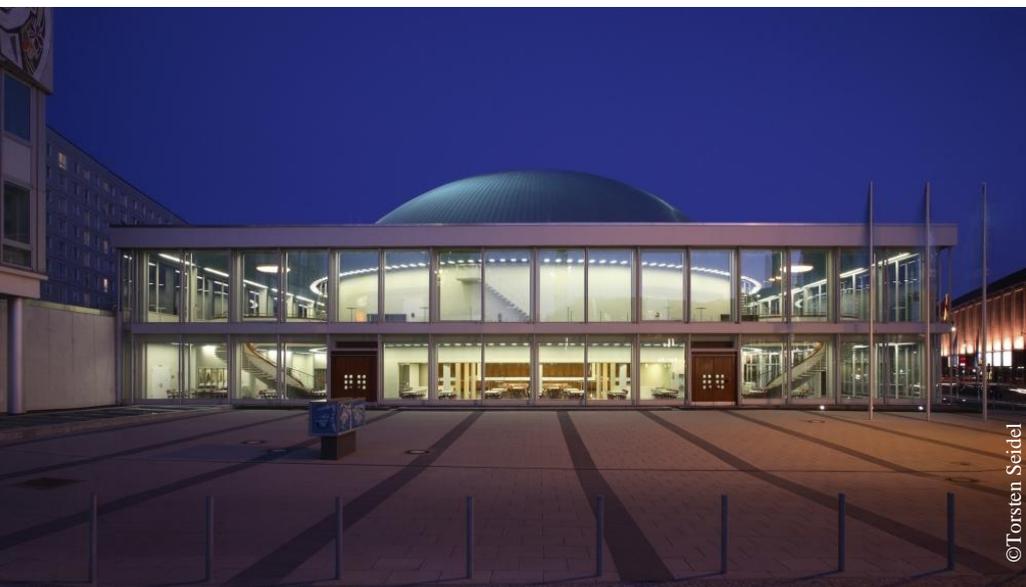


# G-I-N 2012

## Global Evidence – International Diversity

Press Conference

23 August 2012  
bcc Berlin Congress Center



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9<sup>th</sup> G-I-N Conference  
Guidelines International Network  
22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2012

# Press Conference





## Press Conference

23 August 2012, 12:30 – 13:30 hrs

bcc Berliner Congress Center  
Alexanderstraße 11, 10178 Berlin

### Moderators:

- **Minna Kaila**, Vice-Chair of G-I-N, Professor, University of Helsinki Medical School
- **Roland Schaffler**, Editor, Das österreichische Gesundheitswesen – ÖKZ, QUALITAS

### Schedule:

Welcome and Introduction <b>Minna Kaila, Roland Schaffler</b>
Statements <b>Philip van der Wees</b> (Introduction of G-I-N), <b>Günter Ollenschläger</b> (G-I-N celebrates its first decade in Berlin), <b>Ina Kopp</b> (Highlights of the Programme), <b>Amir Qaseem</b> (The Role of Clinical Guidelines for Promoting High Value Care)
Questions
Summary and Perspectives <b>Minna Kaila, Roland Schaffler</b>

### Afterwards:

- Snacks and Refreshments



# Content

## Press Conference Invitation in English and German

### Key Messages/Statements

- Philip van der Wees: Welcome and Introduction of G-I-N
- Günter Ollenschläger: The Guidelines International Network celebrates its first decade in Berlin
- Ina Kopp: Highlights of the Programme
- Amir Qaseem: The Role of Clinical Guidelines for Promoting High Value Care

### Fact Sheets

- Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)
- German Agency for Quality in Medicine (AQuMed/ÄZQ)
- Association of the Scientific Medical Societies in Germany (AWMF)

### Short Biographies

### Background Information



## Press Conference Invitation

**For the annual conference of the Guidelines International Network  
Thursday, August 23, from 12.30 to 13.30 in the Berlin Congress Center**

**Experts for medical guidelines from all over the world are joining in Berlin!**

### **Guidelines change the health system**

No topic has been recently discussed more often than Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) and its applications to clinical practice guidelines. EBM is a systematic approach to clinical problem solving which allows the integration of the best available research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values. EBM has, without a doubt, changed health systems entirely by generating a knowledge base for decision making in clinical practice. Health care providers base their actions on this knowledge and not only on expert opinions.

Patients and their relatives particularly benefit from this development. By making evidence-based knowledge available to the general public, patients can take an active and self-determined role in their treatment process. G-I-N's International Guideline Library currently includes more than 6,500 international guidelines and other related documents, thus ensuring the availability of practice-oriented medical knowledge at international level.

### **Annual G-I-N conference in Berlin**

The Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) is a global network that supports evidence-based health care and improved health outcomes by reducing inappropriate variation throughout the world. G-I-N celebrates its 10-year anniversary during our annual conference in Berlin from 22-25 August 2012. At the invitation of the German Agency for Quality in Medicine (ÄZQ) and the German Association of the Scientific Medical Societies (AWMF), more than 500 guideline-experts and users from all over the world will join to share knowledge and expertise.

This year's theme follows the international learning approach by focusing on "Global Evidence – International Diversity". The program includes interactive sessions about methodology for the development, dissemination and the utilization of clinical practice guidelines and to exchange the best approaches to improve patient care. The opening ceremony on the morning of Thursday 23 August will focus on our tenth anniversary, followed by a plenary session to discuss what we have accomplished in these 10 years and what lies ahead. The conference ends early afternoon on Saturday August 25.

Previous conferences took place in Edinburgh (UK), 2003, Wellington (NZ), 2004, Lyon (FR), 2005, Toronto (CA), 2007, Helsinki (FI), 2008, Lisbon (PT), 2009, Chicago (US), 2010 and Seoul (KR), 2011. G-I-N now celebrates its 10th anniversary in its birthplace, Berlin.

Detailed information about the congress can be found at [www.gin2012.org](http://www.gin2012.org).

We are looking forward to your participation at the press conference on Thursday, August 23 from 12.30 to 13.30 in Berlin and we would be delighted to have you as our guest throughout the conference.

**Dr. Philip van der Wees**

*G-I-N Chair  
Co-Chair of G-I-N 2012*

**Prof. Dr. Günter Ollenschläger**

*Head, ÄZQ  
Co-Chair of G-I-N 2012*

**Prof. Dr. Ina Kopp**

*Association of the Scientific Medical  
Societies, Chair of the Scientific  
Committee, G-I-N 2012*



## Einladung zur Pressekonferenz

**anlässlich der Jahrestagung des Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)**

am Donnerstag, 23. August von 12.30 - 13.30 Uhr im Berliner Congress Center

**Experten für medizinische Leitlinien aus allen Kontinenten tagen in Berlin!**

### Leitlinien verändern das Gesundheitswesen

Kaum ein anderes Thema wird in den letzten Jahren in gesundheitswissenschaftlichen Medien so ausführlich diskutiert wie die Evidenzbasierte Medizin (EbM) und ihre Anwendung in medizinischen Leitlinien (guidelines). Die evidenzbasierte Medizin – also die Entscheidung über die angemessene medizinische Vorgehensweise in der Behandlung von Patienten auf der Grundlage der besten verfügbaren wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnisse – hat die Gesundheitssysteme zweifellos durch die Schaffung einer soliden Wissensbasis grundlegend verändert: Wissen wird demokratisiert und Ärzte gründen ihr Handeln auf dieses Wissen und nicht auf Expertenmeinungen allein.

Vor allem Patienten und Angehörige profitieren von dieser Entwicklung: Indem evidenzbasiertes Medizinwissen allgemein verfügbar gemacht wird, können sie eine aktive und selbstbestimmte Rolle im Behandlungsprozess einnehmen. Internationale Leitlinien-Datenbanken, allen voran die nunmehr öffentlich zugängliche International Guideline Library des G-I-N mit derzeit mehr als 6.500 internationalen Leitlinien, spielen hierbei eine wichtige Rolle, denn sie gewährleisten die schnelle Verfügbarkeit von praxisorientiertem medizinischen Wissen.

### G-I-N-Jahrestagung in Berlin

G-I-N, das internationale Netzwerk für medizinische Leitlinien, tagt 2012 in Berlin. Auf Einladung des Ärztlichen Zentrums für Qualität in der Medizin (ÄZQ) und der Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Wissenschaftlichen Medizinischen Fachgesellschaften (AWMF) treffen sich Leitlinien-Experten und Anwender aus aller Welt. Die Rekordbeteiligung von über 400 eingereichten Beiträgen aus 44 Ländern zeigt eindrucksvoll, wie sehr das Thema Leitlinien die nationalen Gesundheitssysteme beschäftigt.

G-I-N heißt internationales Lernen – diesen Ansatz verfolgt das Netzwerk auch bei seinem zehnten Jahreskongress unter dem Motto „Global Evidence – International Diversity“ konsequent: Gemeinsam die Methoden für die Entwicklung, die Verbreitung und die Anwendung medizinischer Leitlinien voranzubringen und die besten Ansätze zur Verbesserung der Patientenversorgung auszutauschen, steht vom 22. - 25. August 2012 in Berlin auf der Tagesordnung. Nach seinen Jahreskongressen in Edinburgh (UK), 2003, Wellington (NZ), 2004, Lyon (FR), 2005, Toronto (CA), 2007, Helsinki (FI), 2008, Lissabon (PT), 2009, Chicago (US), 2010 und Seoul (KR), 2011, begeht G-I-N sein 10jähriges Jubiläum jetzt in Berlin.

### Deutschsprachiges Symposium

Speziell für das deutschsprachige Publikum wird am 22. August ein Satellitensymposium „Leitlinien und Qualitätsförderung“ angeboten, ebenfalls organisiert von ÄZQ und AWMF. Unter dem Motto: „Leitlinien: Hoffnungsträger für das Deutsche Gesundheitssystem?“ diskutieren Entscheidungsträger des deutschen Gesundheitssystems im Rahmen einer Podiums- und Plenumsdiskussion über die Bedeutung von medizinischen Leitlinien für die Versorgung.

**Detaillierte Informationen über den Kongress und das Programm finden Sie im Internet unter [www.gin2012.de](http://www.gin2012.de) und [www.gin2012.org](http://www.gin2012.org).**

**Wir freuen uns auf Ihre Teilnahme an der Pressekonferenz am Donnerstag, den 23. August 2012 in Berlin.**

**Für die Veranstalter:**

**Prof. Dr. Günter Ollenschläger**

*Leiter des ÄZQ*

**Prof. Dr. Ina Kopp**

*Leiterin des AWMF-Instituts für  
med. Wissensmanagement*

**Dr. Philip van der Wees**

*Chairman Guidelines International  
Network*

**Global Evidence – International Diversity**

Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)  
9<sup>th</sup> G-I-N conference, 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 | Berlin



# Key Messages Statements





# Welcome

**Philip van der Wees**, Chair of G-I-N,  
Dutch Harkness Fellow of the Commonwealth Fund, Department of  
Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School, Boston

## Welcome

I would like to welcome the German and international press to our annual conference. This year's conference is very special, since we are celebrating our tenth anniversary. G-I-N's mission is to lead, strengthen and support collaboration and work within the guideline development, adaptation and implementation community. The networking character of G-I-N is represented in our Board of Trustees. Last year we worked in a group of 15 Trustees with an enormous background and expertise in guideline development and implementation from all over the world. We have published two papers<sup>1,2</sup> in peer-reviewed journals this year, which address our mission to lead the international guideline community.

## Activities

To provide you with a flavor of our activities I would like to highlight some of our results during the past year, which was a year of high production:

- The Evidence Tables Working Group launched GINDER, as a data extraction resource for evidence tables. Their paper was published in *BMJ Quality & Safety* in 2011.
- G-I-N Public recently delivered a Toolkit of methods for Patient & Public Involvement.
- The Adaptation Working Group was established to continue the work of guideline adaptation.
- The G-I-N Emergency Care Community submitted the results of a survey to identify preferred attributes of guidelines in emergency care to a peer reviewed journal.
- The Allied Health Community submitted their paper to a peer reviewed journal, which addresses the importance of patient functioning and quality of life within guidelines.
- The Implementation Working Group is working on the taxonomy of implementation terms.
- G-I-N North America has organized a monthly webinar series and organizes an upcoming guideline conference in New York in December 2012.

## References

1. Van der Wees P, Qaseem A, Kaila M, Ollenschlaeger G, Rosenfeld R. Prospective systematic review registration: perspective from the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N). *Syst Rev.* 2012;1(1):3.
2. Qaseem A, Forland F, Macbeth F, Ollenschlager G, Phillips S, van der Wees P. Guidelines International Network: toward international standards for clinical practice guidelines. *Ann Intern Med.* Apr 3 2012;156(7):525-531.



## **The Guidelines International Network celebrates its first decade in Berlin**

**Günter Ollenschläger**, German Agency for Quality in Medicine, G-I-N Founding Chair 2002-2005

The German Agency for Quality in Medicine (AQuMed/AEZQ) and the German Association of the Scientific Medical Societies (AWMF) are honoured to host the 2012 Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) Conference in Berlin. Founded 10 years ago, G-I-N aims at improving health care by promoting development and use of high quality evidence based clinical guidelines.

### **Evidence based clinical guidelines – Healthcare recommendations we can trust**

A key bridge between research and medical practice is reliable knowledge transfer, independent from industry. Good clinical practice guidelines are seen as powerful tools to bridge the gap between the growing stream of research findings and healthcare. They must not be misunderstood as directives but are aimed at providing orientation and underpinning clinical expertise in the care of each individual patient. High quality guidelines not only focus on patients' needs but should be developed together with patients. Lay versions of guidelines are needed for shared decision making.

### **10 years developing G-I-N: a success story**

G-I-N members are trustworthy agents that safeguard guideline quality. 10 years ago the network started as Euro-centric entity with a clear vision of becoming an international community. A total of 37 "Founding Members" from 20 countries joined G-I-N during the first 4 months of its existence (only 6 organisations from outside Europe). Now the network represents 86 institutions from 36 countries of all continents (with 33 organisations based outside of Europe). G-I-N has been accepted as THE international guideline forum and a trusted voice of guideline agencies worldwide.

The objectives of G-I-N formulated in 2002 by the network's founding committee became reality:

- International collaboration in guideline activities is promoted by building links between relevant healthcare organisations worldwide;
- The virtual G-I-N Guideline Library is the largest guideline database worldwide with now more than 6.500 guideline documents;
- Methodology and best practice of guideline development and use are promoted by means of conferences, training activities and publications.

### **The route forward – with special reference to the German healthcare system**

2012 is a year of change for G-I-N. The last members of the founders will step down from leadership positions in the organisation, leaving the field clear for new minds that will have to face new challenges, amongst which most urgently are:

- guideline implementation, i.e. knowledge transfer from research to the workplace of healthcare professionals - by overcoming barriers against evidence based guideline and by consequent use of health information technology;
- intensified health services research, studying the influence of guideline application on patient outcome as well as cost benefit relationship of guideline development and application;
- safeguarding sustainable, industry-independent funding of guideline development and knowledge transfer.

Funding especially will become more and more of an issue. Increasingly, the public (politicians, consumer & self help groups, sickness funds) asks for high quality guidelines and standards of care. On the other hand public payers often are not willing to pay for guideline production and implementation. Actually, in Germany financial resources mainly come from private payers like scientific societies and the physicians' self-government. Since independent, unbiased knowledge transfer in healthcare is a public issue, we do need public funding.

### **References**

- Ollenschläger G et al (2004) QualSaf Health Care 13:455-460.  
Institute of Medicine (2011) Clinical practice guidelines we can trust. Consensus Report.  
European Science Foundation (2011) Implementation of medical research in clinical practice. Strasbourg ([www.esf.org](http://www.esf.org))



## Highlights of the Programme

**Ina Kopp**, Association of the Scientific Medical Societies, Chair of the Scientific Committee, G-I-N 2012

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Guidelines International Network G-I-N will be celebrated with an annual conference programme full of highlights.

The plenaries address current questions important to clinicians like: What are the features constituting a "good" Guideline? What should and can result in the development and implementation of guidelines, anyway? How can we improve knowledge transfer into practice? Is it possible to provide "evidence-based" care for patients with comorbidities? How can we improve the scientific basis for our guideline recommendations i.e. clinical research?

Patients with their individual needs are the core of medical care. Therefore, patient involvement and patient information are important themes of the conference, which will be discussed from the perspectives of clinical experts and patient representatives.

We are delighted to have won speakers who are not only internationally renowned scientists, but also personalities who know how to thrill an audience.

The huge international interest in the conference is underpinned by the facts that more than 400 abstracts from 44 countries were submitted and more than 500 participants from more than 40 countries have registered for participation.

The implementation of guideline recommendations, i.e. the translation of knowledge into daily practice is an important issue that will be addressed in various contributions. To support implementation, G-I-N established the Guidelines International Network Implementation Working Group.

The conference theme – Global evidence- international diversity will be central for contributions and discussions. The challenge is to guide the modern information society in terms of making best available knowledge identifiable by the means of evidence based medicine and to explore possibilities of sharing best available knowledge internationally in order to avoid useless duplication of efforts: how can we share evidence globally? This goal has also been addressed by the G-I-N Evidence Tables Working Group.

View the full conference programme at <http://www.gin2012.org>.

The conference proceedings are available as a pdf at <http://gin2012.org/programme.html>

or as a searchable html document at <http://www.egms.de/dynamic/en/meetings/gin2012/index.htm>.



## **The Role of Clinical Guidelines for Promoting High Value Care**

**Amir Qaseem, MD, PhD, MHA, FACP, Member of the G-I-N Board of Trustees since 2010/2011**

**Director, Clinical Policy, American College of Physicians, Philadelphia, USA**

Health care costs are rising all over the world. Although many factors have contributed to the increase in health care costs, new drugs, devices, procedures, and tests are the primary drivers of increased health care spending. However, biomedical innovations are also often key factors in improved patient outcomes. It is critical that we use testing and medical technology judiciously and assess whether potential benefits justify the harms and costs. Many of the health care costs are due to the provision of unnecessary services or inefficiently delivered services. The increase in costs has placed great strain on family, employer, and governmental budgets.

This is where clinical practice guidelines come into play as they are an integral part of clinical practice. Clinical guidelines have an impact on clinical decisions, operations at hospitals, and health care spending by governments and insurers. They offer explicit recommendations for clinicians, improve the consistency of care, and help in closing the gap between what clinicians do and what scientific evidence supports. The primary goal of clinical guidelines is to improve the quality of care of the patient. The health care profession and patients rely heavily on the translation of evidence into trustworthy clinical guidelines. Over recent decades, the number of guidelines developed by government and private organizations worldwide has increased exponentially. Clinicians, patients, and other stakeholders struggle with numerous and sometimes contradictory guidelines of variable quality. In response to calls for the need for trustworthy guidelines, the Guidelines International Network proposed a set of minimal standards for guideline development in order to initiate a global discussion of international standards and to help develop and appraise clinical guidelines.

Clinical guidelines play a critical role in preserving the quality of care while reducing costs. The distinction between cost and value is essential. A high-cost intervention may provide good value if its benefits outweigh its harms and costs. Conversely, low-cost interventions may provide low value if they have little or no net benefit. High-quality guidelines can direct clinicians to choose valuable services that will benefit patients. Clinical guidelines should make recommendations based on a careful assessment of benefits, harms, and costs of a diagnostic test or a therapeutic intervention in order to determine its value. As physicians, we have sworn an oath to place interests of the patient ahead of our own interest. Also, according to the Medical Professionalism Charter (1), it is the ethical and professional responsibility of clinicians to provide health care that is wise and cost-effective in order to manage limited resources. Our goal is to improve quality of care of patients, while reducing and possibly eliminating provision of services that do not have an impact on clinical outcomes of patients.

- (1) American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation; American College of Physicians–American Society of Internal Medicine Foundation; European Federation of Internal Medicine. Medical professionalism in the new millennium: a physician charter. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 2002(136):243-6.

**Global Evidence – International Diversity**

Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)  
9<sup>th</sup> G-I-N conference, 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 | Berlin



# Fact Sheets





# Guidelines International Network

The Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) is a global network, founded in 2002. It has grown to comprise 86 organizations and 107 individual members representing 45 countries from all continents (July 2012). The network supports evidence-based health care and improved health outcomes by reducing inappropriate variation throughout the world. G-I-N is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year at its conference in Berlin from 22-25 August 2012.

## Mission

G-I-N's mission is to lead, strengthen and support collaboration and work within the guideline development, adaptation and implementation community.

The purpose of G-I-N is to foster and support collaboration among guideline developers, implementers, researchers, students, users in all health disciplines, policy makers, health technology assessment agencies, administrators and patients. G-I-N promotes best practice through the development of opportunities for learning and building capacity, and the establishment of high quality standards of guideline development, adaptation, dissemination and implementation.

## Activities

G-I-N provides multiple networking opportunities such as our annual conference to allow mutual learning and improvements. The majority of the work in G-I-N is done by our working groups and communities with the production of tools and standards for guideline development, implementation and evaluation. G-I-N owns the world largest International Guideline Library, which contains more than 6,500 documents (July 2012) and other online tools.

## Governance

G-I-N is an international not-for-profit association registered as a Scottish Guarantee Company and Charity. The Network's affairs are directed and managed by a Board of Trustees, elected by G-I-N's members. The Board of Trustees is supported by three staff members. Our office is located at the German Agency for Quality in Medicine in Berlin.

**Philip van der Wees, August 2012**



## AQuMed / ÄZQ

**The German Agency for Quality in Medicine (AQuMed/ÄZQ)** is the German Physicians' Centre of Excellence for Evidence based Medicine, Knowledge Management and Patient Safety.

The German Agency for Quality in Medicine (AQuMed) - in German "Ärztliches Zentrum für Qualität in der Medizin (ÄZQ)", established in 1995 and located in Berlin, coordinates healthcare quality programmes with special focus on evidence-based medicine, medical guidelines, patient empowerment, patient safety programs, and quality management. AQuMed is a non-profit organization owned by the German Medical Association and the National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians.

The Agency was co-founder of the German Network for Evidence based Medicine DNEbM and of the Guidelines International Network G-I-N.

### AQuMed major focus lies on

- appraising and/or producing guidelines, quality indicators and patient information
- disseminating and implementing evidence-based guidelines
- coordinating error prevention and patient safety measures
- developing methodologies for guidelines and evidence-based healthcare
- identifying and appraising quality innovations

### AQuMed hosts

- The Office of the German Network for Evidence Based Medicine (DNEbM)
- The Office of the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)
- The Guideline Office of European Society for Quality in Healthcare (ESQH)
- The G-I-N Conference 2012 "Global Evidence - International Diversity"

### AQuMed holds the editorship of

- The German Journal for Evidence and Quality in Healthcare (Zeitschrift für Evidenz, Fortbildung und Qualität im Gesundheitswesen - ZEFQ)

### AQuMed's internet address

- [www.azq.de](http://www.azq.de)
- [www.aqumed.de](http://www.aqumed.de)



## AWMF

The **Association of the Scientific Medical Societies in Germany (AWMF)** – founded in 1962 – is the Network of Scientific Medical Societies in Germany.

Currently, 163 scientifically active medical societies are organized under the umbrella of the Association of the Scientific Medical Societies – in German: Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Wissenschaftlichen Medizinischen Fachgesellschaften e.V. (AWMF).

As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, the AWMF advises on policy and interdisciplinary issues in scientific medicine, promotes cooperation among its member societies and supports the transfer of scientific findings into medical practice. In cooperation with other medical organizations, the AWMF represents the interests of scientific medicine to the competent political bodies and the public and seeks close cooperation with similar organizations. It develops recommendations and resolutions e.g. addressing issues of scientific research and publication, health care quality, medical education and represents them to the relevant institutions in the German health care system - also in the political field.

Following a recommendation of the National Advisory Council for Concerted Action in Health Care, the AWMF promotes and coordinates the development of guidelines since 1995. The AWMF supports and advises its member societies in the development and implementation of guidelines, established a quality management system with a framework of rules and recommendations to promote the methodological quality of guidelines and runs the national, open access database for guidelines of its member societies. The AWMF database currently contains 110 multidisciplinary evidence- and consensus-based guidelines, 111 multidisciplinary consensus-based guidelines, 56 evidence-based guidelines and 455 recommendations from expert committees. Together with the German Medical Association and the National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians, the AWMF runs the National Programme for disease management guidelines in Germany organised by AQuMed. Together with the German cancer Society and the German Cancer Aid, AWMF runs the German Guideline Programme in Oncology.

In addition and to promote public access to scientific knowledge, the AWMF, the German Institute for Medical documentation and Information (DIMDI) and the German National Library of Medicine (ZBMed) jointly run the portal and the open-access e-journal “German Medical Science” at the web address [www.egms.de](http://www.egms.de).

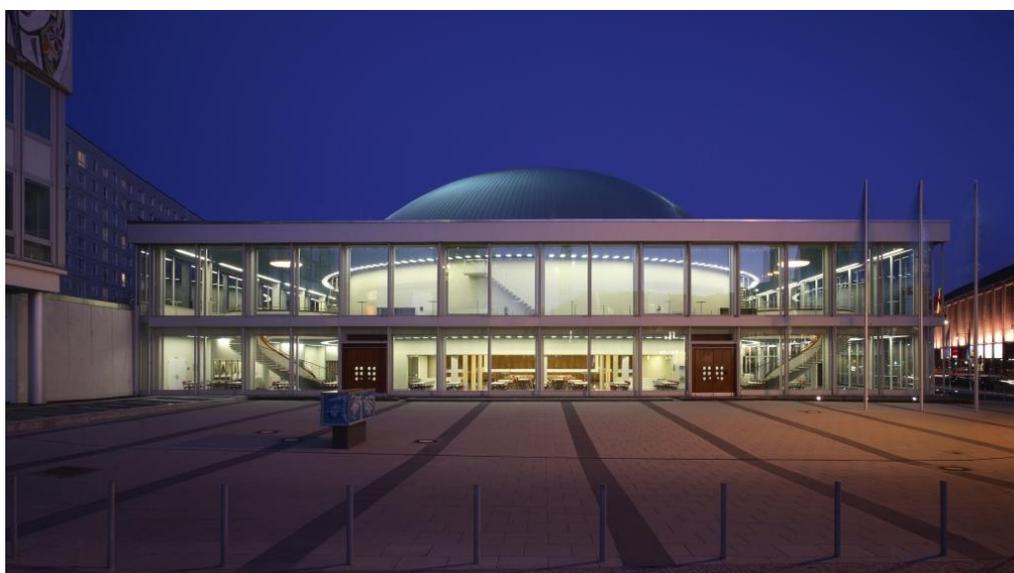
The AWMF was a co-founder of the Guidelines International Network G-I-N.

AWMF's internet address:

[www.awmf.org](http://www.awmf.org)



## Short Biographies



## **Philip van der Wees, PT, PhD**

G-I-N Chair 2010/2012; Member of the G-I-N Executive Committee; Member of the G-I-N Board of Trustees since 2009/2010



Philip van der Wees is physical therapist and human movement scientist from Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

He finished his doctoral thesis in 2009 in evaluating the process of development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines. Since then he has been working as Senior Researcher and Manager of the program 'Quality & Implementation' in a joint collaboration of the Scientific Institute for Quality of Healthcare of Radboud University Nijmegen

Medical Centre, CAPHRI School for Public Health and Primary Care of Maastricht University, and the Royal Dutch Society for Physical Therapy.

His assignment is to stimulate the implementation of clinical guidelines and to systematically evaluate the implementation in research projects. His research publications contribute to the body of knowledge in implementation science. In August 2010 he was appointed as chair of the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N). G-I-N is the world leading organization to stimulate development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines.

In 2011 Philip was selected by the Commonwealth Fund for the Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice. During the academic year 2011-12 Philip is placed at the Department of Health Care Policy of Harvard Medical School in Boston to conduct his fellowship. His research project is aimed at reducing disparities in health care service and health status, being one of the main objectives of health care reform in the United States.

## **Günter Ollenschläger, MD, PharmD, PhD, FRCP Edin, FACP**



Chairman of the G-I-N Founding Committee 2002/2003; Chairman of the G-I-N Board of Trustees 2003/2005; Member of the G-I-N Board of Trustees from 2007/2008 to 2012; G-I-N Treasurer 2005/2007 and 2008/2010; Honorary Patron of the Guidelines International Network (appointed 2005)

Günter Ollenschläger has been Director of the German Agency for Quality in Medicine, Berlin (Joint Institution of the German Medical Association and the National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians) since its foundation in 1995. In this capacity he has been leading the development and establishment of several nationwide healthcare quality programmes in Germany: National Guideline Clearinghouse (1997), National Clearinghouse for Patient Information (1999), German Network for Evidence Based Medicine (2000), and National Programme for Disease Management Guidelines (2002). A trained pharmacist and general internist Dr. Ollenschläger did research work in the field of biopharmacy and of clinical nutrition. He worked as a research pharmacist until 1980, and practised internal medicine until 1990. He has been Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Cologne since 1995. From 1990 until 1995 he headed the Department of Continuing Medical Education and Health Promotion of the German Medical Association. From 2001-2003 he acted as director of the German Association for Quality in Health Care.

Dr. Ollenschläger received his Pharm.D. from the University of Muenster/Westfalia, and his M.D. from the University of Giessen. He earned a Ph.D. in general internal medicine from the University of Cologne, and was elected as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in 2002.

He has been serving as Member of the Board of Trustees, German Network for Evidence-based Medicine since its foundation in 2000. In November 2002 he became Founding Member the Guidelines International Network, and was elected as the first Chairman of G-I-N. Other relevant activities: German representative in the Council of Europe Expert Group on [Methodology of Clinical Practice Guidelines](#) (1999-2000), member of the [AGREE Collaboration](#) (1999-2005), and of the European Research Network in Quality Management in Healthcare ([ENQual](#)); WHO-Euro Consultant in guidelines development and implementation.

Günter Ollenschläger is Editor-in-Chief of the German Journal for Evidence and Quality in Healthcare, and of the German edition of Clinical Evidence.

## Ina Kopp, MD PhD



G-I-N representative of the Association of Scientific Medical Societies (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Wissenschaftlichen Medizinischen Fachgesellschaften, AWMF), a G-I-N founder member; Chair of the G-I-N Scientific Committee 2012

Ina Kopp is Director of the German Association of the Scientific Medical Societies' Institute of Medical Knowledge-Management (AWMF-IMWi) at Philipps-University, Marburg. AWMF-IMWi is the Clearinghouse of Clinical Practice Guidelines developed by the 163 specialty societies organised under the umbrella of AWMF and thus responsible for quality management of the AWMF-guideline-database where these guidelines are published. She trained in general surgery (1995-2000) and internal medicine (2001-2002), received her MD and PhD from the University of Marburg where she is adjunct professor of health services research since 2010. Her major research interest is in the field of health care research, guideline methodology and quality improvement. She is author or coauthor of many evidence-based, multidisciplinary guidelines, 7 books and over 150 publications.

Ina Kopp serves as coordinator and consultant for CPG development and oversees the internet distribution of CPGs, related information and tools for guideline developers via the AWMF-website. She is vice chair of AWMF's Standing Commission for Clinical Practice Guidelines and represents AWMF in the National Programme for Disease Management Guidelines and in the Programme for Guidelines in Oncology in Germany. She serves as speaker of the faculty guidelines in the extended board of the German Network for Evidence based Medicine and is involved in several quality initiatives on the national level such as the National Project for Cross-Sectoral Quality in Health Care and the National Cancer Plan under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of Health.

## Amir Qaseem, MD, PhD, MHA, FACP

Member of the G-I-N Board of Trustees since 2010/2011; Member of the G-I-N Scientific Committee 2010 and 2012



Dr Amir Qaseem is Director of the Department of Clinical Policy at the American College of Physicians (ACP). Dr Qaseem is responsible for leading the American College of Physicians' evidence-based medicine and clinical practice guidelines program, one of the oldest programs in the United States, writing of the clinical guidelines, and overseeing the College's Clinical Guidelines Committee. Dr Qaseem is also in charge of directing the ACP's Performance Measurement program and is responsible for ACP's Performance Measurement Committee. Dr Qaseem's work includes development and implementation of ACP's quality improvement and educational programs. Dr Qaseem is also involved in several international collaborations to develop joint clinical guidelines and improve quality of care across different countries. Dr Qaseem was affiliated with the Pennsylvania State University where he taught courses on health policy, medical epidemiology, and health care medical needs. Dr Qaseem is currently affiliated with the Jefferson Medical College.

Dr Qaseem is currently working on several research projects funded through grants. His research interests include improving quality of clinical care and implementation of clinical guidelines using evidence-based information, comparative effectiveness, and cost effectiveness analysis, practice improvement, studying impact of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement on supply of various health care services, level of staffing and team-based approach and its linkage with the quality of care issues. Dr Qaseem has published several peer-reviewed papers including clinical practice guidelines, implementation of clinical guidelines, quality improvement, performance measurement, and health policy related issues. Some of the papers authored by Dr Qaseem are in the top ten most read articles in the Annals of Internal Medicine. Dr Qaseem has been invited to speak and has presented at numerous national and international conferences on issues related to health policy, evidence-based medicine, guideline development, guideline and evidence grading, and topics associated with access and quality of care. Dr Qaseem is also on Governance Boards and committees of various organizations.

**Global Evidence – International Diversity**

Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)  
9<sup>th</sup> G-I-N conference, 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 | Berlin



# Background Information





## Background Information

- [G-I-N Annual Report 2011/2012](#)
- [enGINE](#), Newsletter of G-I-N, July 2012
- [G-I-N Information Flyer \(English\)](#)  
[G-I-N Information Flyer \(German\)](#)
- [Article](#) “Improving the quality of health care: using international collaboration to inform guideline programmes by founding the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)”
- [G-I-N PUBLIC’s Toolkit](#) on Patient and Public Involvement in Guidelines
- AWMF: [Flyer](#) “AWMF”  
[German Guidelines Program in Oncology](#)
- ÄZQ: [Flyer](#) “Kurzinformationen für Patienten“
- [Artikel](#): Die Welt zu Gast in Berlin, QUALITAS 01/12