



# AGREE ONCOLOGY



## European Network for Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology



**Margaret Haugh**  
*m.haugh@lyon.fnclcc.fr*

# Oncology guideline development today

- ⌘ Duplication of effort - many programmes exist
- ⌘ Producing good quality CPGs is laborious
- ⌘ Keeping up-to-date is a real challenge
- ⌘ Resources are increasingly limited
- ⌘ Need to encourage enthusiasm:

***“guideline developers are guided out!”***

**(Mark Levine)**

# Challenges for guideline development in Europe

## *How to avoid duplication of effort and improve efficacy?*

- ⌘ Share experiences – ‘learning from others’
- ⌘ Improve the quality of CPGs
- ⌘ Share information - CPG databases
- ⌘ Share tasks in CPG development and updating processes
- ⌘ Ensure the sustainability of programmes
- ⌘ Assemble a critical mass for pertinent research on CPGs

# AGREE ONCOLOGY - Objectives -

- ⌘ Set up a multinational collaboration between three complementary networks: AGREE, OECl, and GIN
- ⌘ Perform research to improve CPG development and implementation methodologies
- ⌘ Identify tasks in the CPG development process that can be effectively shared at the European / International level
- ⌘ Set up an appropriate environment for the shared development and updating of CPGs for specialists and information for patients

# European Network for CPGs in Oncology



# AGREE ONCOLOGY - Challenges -

- ⌘ How to share CPG development and updating?
- ⌘ How can CPGs developed elsewhere be adapted for use in another setting?
- ⌘ What aspects can be shared?
- ⌘ How to ensure acceptance of shared guidelines?
- ⌘ How to involve the patients' perspective effectively?
- ⌘ How to share responsibilities?
- ⌘ How to prioritise?

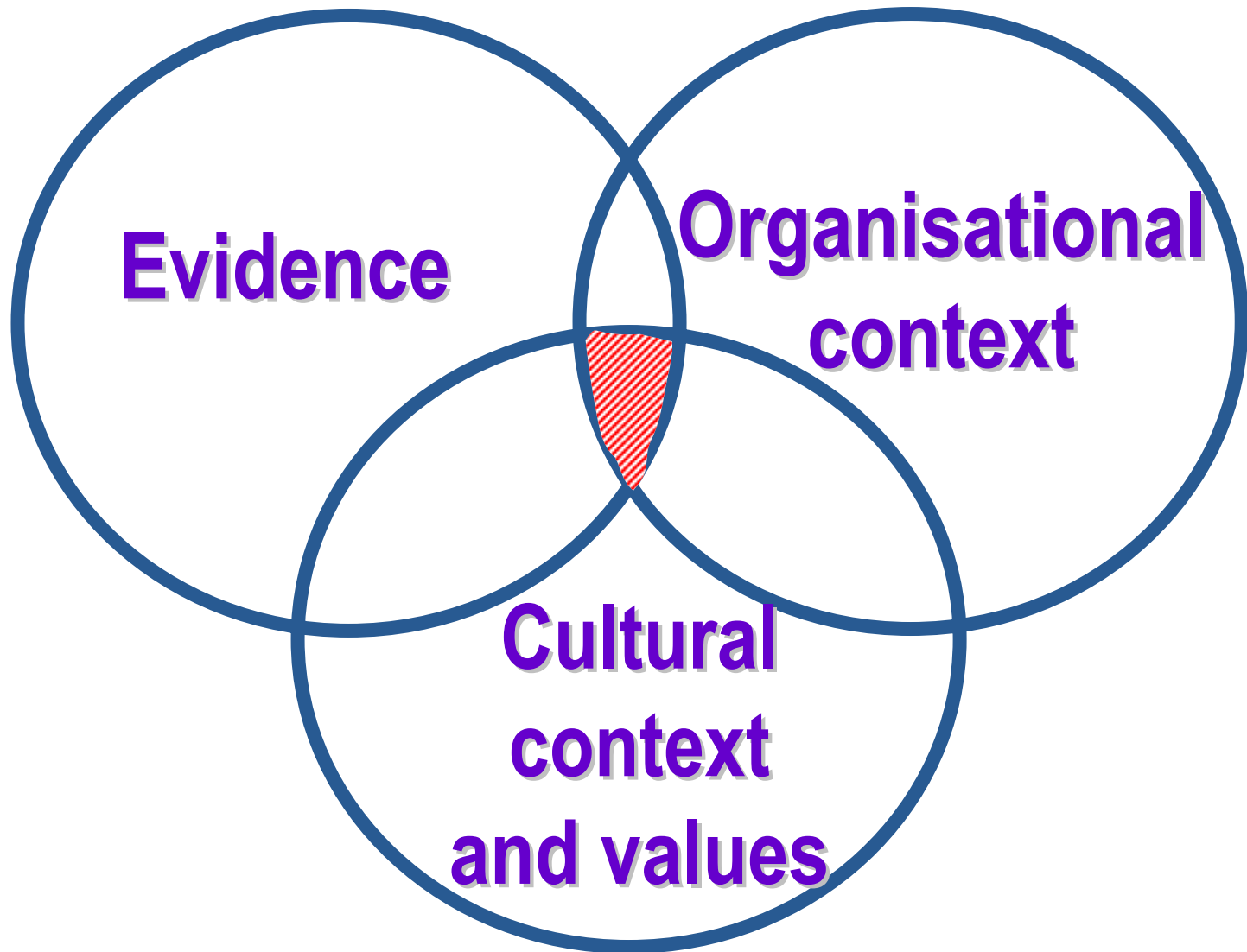
# Meeting the Challenges

## ***Prerequisite: a common conceptual framework***

- ⌘ to facilitate communication
- ⌘ to identify mechanisms for collaboration
- ⌘ to define a basis for a common research programme

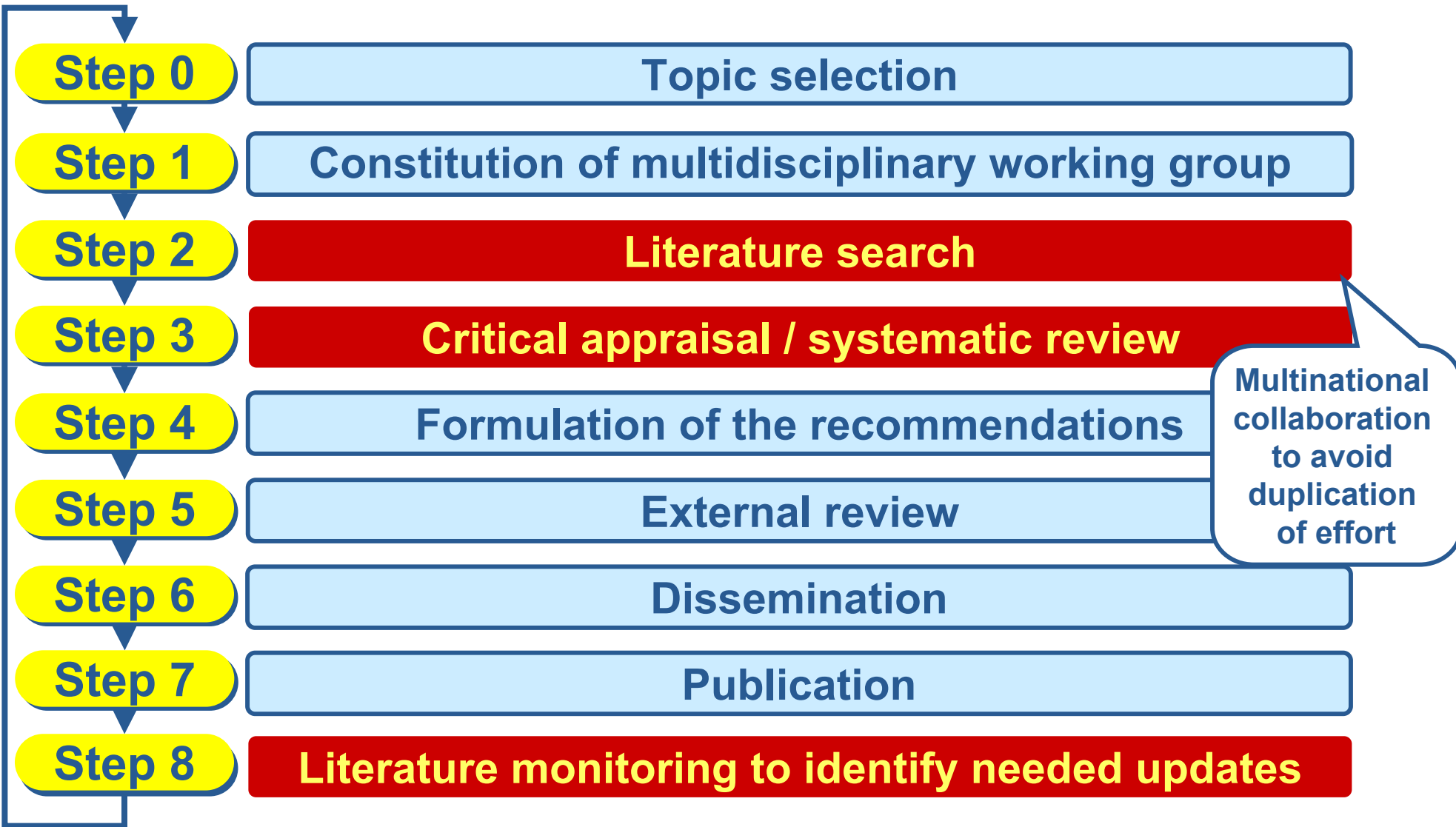
- CPG development process (e.g. SOR)
- CPG life cycle (e.g. George Browman et al)
- AGREE instrument

# Guideline Development: a multidimensional process





# What aspects can be shared?



# What aspects require local input?

Step 0

Topic selection

Step 1

Constitution of multidisciplinary working group

Step 2

Literature search

Step 3

Critical appraisal / systematic review

Step 4

**Formulation of the recommendations**

Step 5

**External review**

Step 6

Dissemination

Step 7

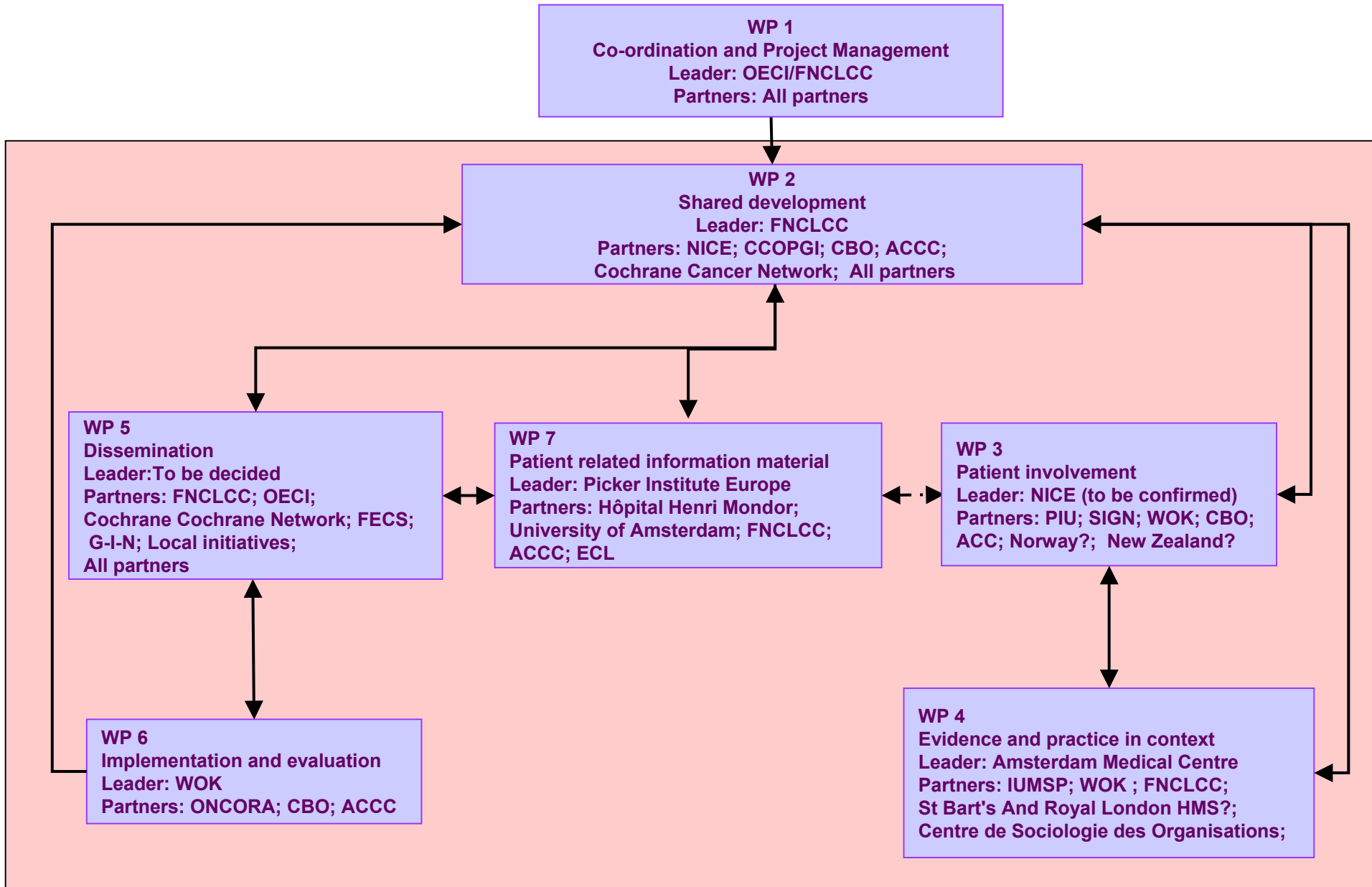
Publication

Step 8

Literature monitoring to identify needed updates

National responsibility to maximise acceptance and relevance for local practice

# AGREE ONCOLOGY - WORK FLOW



# AGREE ONCOLOGY

## November 2003

- ERA-NET project CoCanCPG
- Not in 6FP 3rd call
- Will the topic be in the 4th call?
- Public health call (DG Sanco)?

AGREE ONCOLOGY is a research programme  
- comprising several projects  
Find funding for the individual projects ?