



Promoting quality of guidelines

What is G-I-N's role?

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www.g-i-n.net

Outline of presentation



1. Brief overview of aims, activities and output of G-I-N
2. What role could, should, must G-I-N have to further promote the quality of guidelines?

Historic perspective



Seventies: National Institutes of Health (NIH): systematic consensus statements

Eighties: Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (AHRQ): evidence-based guideline program

Nineties: Large (national) guideline programs

21st century: International collaboration (AGREE, G-I-N)



G-I-N's 10th anniversary in 2012

Reasons for "guideline networking"



- Similar goals and strategies in developing, implementing and adapting guidelines to improve quality of care and inform health care providers, patients and stakeholders
- Similar challenges faced worldwide:
 - Duplication of efforts
 - Resources constraints
 - Keeping guidelines up to date while new knowledge is increasing rapidly
- Producing high quality guidelines requires expertise and should be developed according to international standards

Aims of G-I-N



Activities of G-I-N





Working groups & Communities



BMJ Quality & Safety 2011

Toolkit patient/consumer involvement



Paper specific needs emergency care

Position paper Quality of life



Implementation taxonomy

Refining and implementing ADAPTE



Regional Activities North America



Deliverables

- International Guideline Library (www.g-i-n.net)
- International conferences
- Courses: development, implementation, adaptation, patient involvement
- Registry of evidence summaries (GINDER)
- Toolkits (e.g. consumers, allied health)
- Papers (evidence tables, emergency care, quality of life)

GINDER (G-I-N Data Extraction Resource)

- Objective:
 - Online collaborative working space containing a registry of summarized studies to populate evidence tables.
 - Presenting data extracted in a consistent format, based on the templates developed by the ETWG
 - Facilitating the sharing of summarized studies

GINDER (G-I-N Data Extraction Resource)

- Templates developed by the Evidence Tables working group
 - diagnostic studies - available in GINDER from its launch
 - intervention studies - will be added in GINDER as a second phase
 - (prognostic studies - evaluation study performed, reviewed template discussed in a workshop)
 - (economical evaluation - evaluation study performed)



Now it needs to be populated!



Partnerships and relations

- AGREE (www.agreetrust.org)
- INAHTA (www.inahta.org)
- GRADE (www.gradeworkinggroup.org)
- WMA (www.wma.net)
- IFEM (www.ifem.cc)
- Building links with other networks such as:
 - European Science Foundation
 - PROSPERO
- Liaisons with scientific journals:
 - BMJ Quality and Safety
 - German Journal for Evidence and Quality in Health Care

What role should, could, must G-I-N have to further promote the quality of guidelines?



Harmonization of guideline development

- ❑ AGREE instrument: Appraisal of quality of guidelines
- ❑ GRADE: Levels of evidence and grading of recommendations
- ❑ (National) handbooks for guideline development
- ❑ Institute of Medicine (US): Standards for trustworthy guidelines
- ❑ Dutch Council for Quality of Healthcare: Guideline for guidelines



No international set of standards yet



International standards



International Standards to Develop and Evaluate the Quality of Clinical Practice Guidelines: A Position Statement

Amir Qaseem, Frode Forland, Sue Phillips, Günter Ollenschläger, Fergus Macbeth, Philip van der Wees
for the G-I-N Board of Trustees

International standards



- ❑ Using existing expertise and documents as basis
- ❑ Create common ground for minimal and implementable standards: position paper
- ❑ 11 key components for high quality guidelines
- ❑ Submitted for publication
- ❑ Presented as work under development
- ❑ Initiate discussion for developing international set of standards

Appraising and finding guidelines

- International Guideline Library (G-I-N)
 - Endorsed by G-I-N member organizations
 - Publication details & MeSH terms
 - 7832 guidelines and related documents (by 19 August)
- National Guideline Clearinghouse (US - AHRQ)
 - (Basic) criteria for inclusion
 - Using template for guideline summaries
 - 2596 individual guideline summaries (by 19 August)
- Websites of guideline developing organizations
 - National development programs
 - Endorsement of guidelines at national level
 - Professional bodies



Appraising guideline developers

- Accreditation of producers of guidelines: NHS Evidence/NICE
 - Review of comprehensive information submitted by guidance producers
 - Accreditation of process of guideline development
 - Based on AGREE criteria
 - UK oriented, but also applicable to international guideline organizations
 - Currently 24 accredited guideline processes (by 19 August)
 - International organizations eligible to apply for accreditation



Dilemma's for G-I-N's role

Quality assessment of individual guidelines to be published in the international guideline library?

Accreditation of guideline producers, e.g. in collaboration with NHS Evidence?

Support tools for G-I-N members to meet standards for guideline development, e.g. by self-evaluation instrument?

Considerations for G-I-N's role

- ❑ To set international standards and be recognized as robust and high quality network
- ❑ Create opportunities for members to share and use each other's guidelines and evidence summaries
- ❑ Using expertise from our members, so no need to reinvent the wheel
- ❑ Limited resources, funded by our members
- ❑ Need for national or local adaptation

Two Perspectives

Creating circumstances, supporting and promoting quality of guidelines and guideline development

➡ Networking perspective

Appraising guidelines and accrediting guideline organizations

➡ Authority perspective

