

The Australian Guideline Developer Network

Thinking Globally-Acting Nationally-Working
Locally



Australian Guideline Development

96 Organisations

67 have produced no guidelines in the past 15 months

3 new developers in the same period

21 produced > 5 guidelines in the past 5 years

National guideline portal (www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au)

525 Current guidelines

124 evidence documented (23%)

27 NHMRC approved

First national guideline audit 2010 (Buchan et al)



Issues identified



- No guideline coordination
- Key guidelines are not updated
- Low levels of evidence documentation (Buchan *et al* 2010)
- Few guidelines in the national health priority areas
- Many guidelines in drug and alcohol, infectious disease and pregnancy and childbirth
- Difficulties in conflict of interest, consumer engagement, identification of target users and patient groups

www.dhrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA

One Solution – A Network



Keeping Guidelines Current –
Electronic Solutions (Wiki)

An OHSU Web
2011 Content License Available

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Forming the Network



Step 1: aims and objectives

- To promote sharing of information and solutions
- To improve developer skills and build national capacity
- Address issue of guideline duplication
- Act as a 'test bed' for NHMRC initiatives

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Forming the Network



Step 2: expression of interest and survey

- Priority issues ranked by members
- How to implement guidelines effectively (23%)
- Improving implementability of guidelines (14.6%)
- Evaluating guideline use (10%)
- Making better use of grading systems (8.4%)
- Disclosure & management of conflict of interest (NHMRC priority)

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Forming the Network



Step 3: three workshops (2010-11) covering-

- Evidence grading systems
- Conflict of interest recognition and management
- Choosing and supporting the (right) consumer
- Guideline dissemination
- Prioritising guideline recommendations
- Wording of recommendations
- Incorporating cultural relevance
- When to update guidelines

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Forming the Network



Step 4: Special interest groups

- Workshop for Australian methodologists to develop a national approach to an evidence grading system(s)
- Prioritisation of 'how to' guides for new NHMRC guideline standards

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



2011 NHMRC Standard



Requirements in 7 domains:

1. Governance and stakeholder involvement
2. Scope and purpose
3. Evidence review
4. Guideline recommendations
5. Guideline structure and style
6. Public consultation
7. Dissemination and implementation of guidelines



www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Regional and International collaboration



- Objectives of the NHMRC Guideline Developers network mirrors those of G-I-N
- Our focus is to improve the quality of Australian guidelines, helping to meet the NHMRC standards
- We encourage members to participate in the G-I-N activities and report back to the NHMRC membership
- The Australian Guideline Developers network seeks not to duplicate G-I-N activity but develop collaboration

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA



Sue Huckson
sue.huckson@nhmrc.gov.au

1/499 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004
T: +613 8866 0410

www.nhmrc.gov.au

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA