



Guidelines International Network Emergency Care Community

Introduction to the G-I-N Emergency Care Community

In 2007 Guidelines International Network (G-I-N), in partnership with the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia established an online community to support collaboration across the field of international emergency care to improve the application of clinical guidelines. The core objectives of this community are to:

- Distill knowledge and recommendations from existing high quality clinical guidelines that can be contextualized in local settings
- Undertake specific small-scale projects that could relate to guideline appraisal, implementation, dissemination or usability.
- Provide the membership with access to both clinical knowledge and expertise in guideline development and implementation, and
- Provide a 'virtual' space for the sharing of resources, tools and knowledge that supports application of guidelines.

How are the community activities or topics identified?

Members of the G-I-N Emergency Care Community are encouraged to submit ideas, topics or specific clinical questions for consideration by the broader membership. Prioritisation of activities is also undertaken by the membership through a consensus process.

Benefits of joining the G-I-N Emergency Care Community

- International collaboration with people who have a common interest in guidelines and emergency care
- Access to leaders in guideline development and implementation through G-I-N, and
- It's free!

How will we share our knowledge and expertise?

Website

A wiki space has been designed to support this collaboration. Content related pages can be edited by members to contribute resources and information on specific topics. The website is password-protected to provide a secure space with regard to potential new knowledge generated by the community that might be the basis for a shared publication.

Conversations

Regular teleconferences will provide opportunities for sharing information and expertise and hearing from invited guests on topics related to specific activities. To keep cost minimal Skype and internet based telephony services are utilised.

Sharing resources

One of the principal aims of the community is to make tools and resources available to members including useful links, references to papers and other work available that will support the specific activities or interests of the group.

How to get involved?

For further information contact the G-I-N EC Community coordinator Sue.Huckson@nhmrc.gov.au





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General information

- The G-I-N Emergency Care Community **does not** have the capacity to undertake guideline development.
- Guidelines related to activities of the G-I-N Emergency Care Community are sourced from:
 - G-I-N database (English, in the first instance, and other language guidelines, if there is access to translational resources)
 - Other primary guideline databases such as the National Guideline Clearinghouse, SIGN, NICE, NHMRC, NZGG
 - Relevant professional associations related to delivery of emergency care, and
 - Relevant professional associations linked to the topic in question.
- Guidelines considered for review of recommendations are to meet the following criteria based on the National Guideline Clearinghouse:
 - The clinical practice guideline contains systematically developed statements that include recommendations, strategies, or information that assists physicians and/or other health care practitioners and patients make decisions about appropriate health care for specific clinical circumstances.
 - The clinical practice guideline was produced under the auspices of medical specialty associations; relevant professional societies, public or private organizations, government agencies at the Federal, State, or local level; or health care organizations or plans. A clinical practice guideline developed and issued by an individual not officially sponsored or supported by one of the above types of organizations does not meet the inclusion criteria for NGC.
 - Corroborating documentation can be produced and verified that a systematic literature search and review of existing scientific evidence published in peer reviewed journals was performed during the guideline development. A guideline is not excluded from NGC if corroborating documentation can be produced and verified detailing specific gaps in scientific evidence for some of the guideline's recommendations.
 - The full text guideline is available upon request in print or electronic format (for free or for a fee), in the English language. The guideline is current and the most recent version produced. Documented evidence can be produced or verified that the guideline was developed, reviewed, or revised within the last five years.
- The posting of locally developed guidelines, protocols, pathways and other tools are encouraged to be submitted to the wiki site for the purposes of sharing with the broader membership.

