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Development of Quality Indicators as an Integral Part of Guideline Production – Methodology and Results from the German National Disease Management Guidelines Programme

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Since 2008 the development of Quality Indicators is mandatory for every new German National Disease Management Guideline (NDMG) with the aim of improving guideline implementation. The quality indicators are developed in cooperation with the guideline authors. Besides criteria for assessment, an evaluation scheme has been elaborated to decide about final integration of a quality indicator.

Quality indicator sets have been developed for the NDMG asthma (n=11 process indicators) and chronic heart failure (n=11 process indicators). The results will be discussed under consideration of strengths and shortcomings of the methodology.