



O54

Just finished developing a guideline, how did we do? A process evaluation

Christa Harstall¹, Paul Taenzer², Ann Scott¹, Donna Angus³, Carmen Moga¹

¹Institute of Health Economics, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, ²Alberta Health Services Calgary and area, Calgary Alberta, Canada, ³Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Background: The ADAPTE framework outlines a systematic approach for adapting clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) to a local context. The Alberta Health Technology Assessment Ambassador Program melded and contextualized seven 'seed' guidelines into one CPG on low back pain.

Purpose: To identify the successful strategies and major challenges associated with the process used to develop the CPG, benchmark the process with the ADAPTE framework and identify opportunities for improvement to replicate the process for the next CPG.

Methods: An external consultant developed an Evaluation Framework and used the following data sources:

Document review of major program materials and the ADAPTE Framework and Toolkit.

Semi-structured telephone interviews conducted with participants of the Ambassador Program Committees.

Results: Even though the Alberta healthcare system was undergoing major changes we had a response rate of 86% (30/35). There was strong consensus among the stakeholders interviewed that the process used to develop the CPG for low back pain was a sound and rigorous research process. This was primarily due to the following: strong project leadership; multi-disciplinary approach; Province-wide representation on both the Advisory Committee and Guideline Development Group (GDG); relevance to primary healthcare; substantial support provided by the Project Team; commitment among all participants to a transparent process; and quality evidence-informed product. The process was found to be closely aligned with the ADAPTE framework and included additional enhancements to the quality appraisal tool for the CPGs; use of the GLIA tool to develop the recommendations and patient input.

Discussion: All members of the GDG indicated they would participate in the development of the next CPG.