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Application of the CoCanCPG (Coordination of Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Europe) –ADAPTE manual on prostate cancer CPG of the French National Cancer Institute (INCa).

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Background: Within the transnational cooperation of CoCanCPG, joint activities are tested to avoid duplication of effort among partners. One method is based on the refinement of the ADAPTE manual (CoCan-ADAPTE Manual) and consists in the adaptation of partners' guidelines. Since two partners (NICE, ACCC) had an updated guideline on prostate cancer and such guideline was needed in France, INCa proposed to test the method on this localisation.

Purpose: The objective is to participate in the pilot testing of joint activities by developing a French guideline on diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of patients with prostate cancers.

Methods: The method used is experimental and based on the application of the CoCan-Adapte Manual. The Preliminary phase, specific Adaptation Modules and the Finalisation phase are planned. Related methodological tools have been included to facilitate the application of the modules process. Relevant source guidelines published since 2007 were identified going on a list of evidence-based Medicine Websites. Guidelines were assessed, using the AGREE instrument. An update of equations from source guidelines by a systematic interrogation of the Medline® database is on going since January 2009. New evidences are retrieved with an Ovid® alert system since February 2009.

Results: Six sources guidelines have been identified and assessed. Based on Agree scores and because of a lack of methodology informations, one of the guidelines was excluded. In May 2009, 751 references were retrieved and 59 by Ovid alert. According to pre-defined selection criteria: 115 references will have to be appraised to update parts of the source guidelines during the adaptation process.

Discussion: The project of the prostate cancer guideline update is spread over the on-going year. The next methodological steps are the review of the assessment modules by Working group, the datas extraction and critical appraisal of updated literature. An evaluation of the CoCanADAPTE manual is ongoing.