

ADAPTATION OF GUIDELINES

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Abstract

A rigorous development process is essential to guarantee the scientific validity and quality of clinical practice guidelines (CPGs), but this is costly and time consuming. Adaptation of CPGs for local use could reduce the costs and time, and also avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. In this context guideline adaptation is a process that aims to replace the guideline development process. This involves the identification, quality assessment and updating of existing guidelines, originally developed in a different cultural and organisational setting for use in a different setting. The guideline adaptation process aims to ensure the production of relevant, applicable and up-to-date guidelines without unnecessary duplication of effort. It is important to distinguish this process from another type of adaptation of CPGs that is often part of an implementation strategy; the guideline adaptation process also requires a specific implementation strategy.

The aim of the workshop is to present and discuss an explicit approach to guideline adaptation. We will present a tool that has been developed in the setting of a collaboration between France and Quebec, and with the members of the G-I-N guidelines adaptation working group. This tool, PIPOH, was developed as an aid in the adaptation process for defining the clinical question(s), and the search strategy for pertinent CPGs. The PIPOH can then be used during the selection and evaluation steps of the CPGs adaptation process. PIPOH consists of five domains: Population, Interventions, Professionals, Outcomes, and Healthcare setting. Each domain includes a list of selectable terms to help define the level of detail necessary to describe the scope of the CPG to be adapted.

PIPOH complements the AGREE instrument, which is used in the adaptation process to assess the methodological quality of the CPGs. Pilot testing of the adaptation process, including the PIPOH tool, is under way in Quebec and in France in the context of the development of guidelines in oncology.

NZGG will present a template approach to the comparison of guideline recommendations that highlights the similarities and differences between appraised guidelines from different countries and seeks to inform the debate on the implication that international recommendations may have on local implementation costs or equity issues.

The participants will be invited to comment on this approach to CPG adaptation and also to share their experiences.

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NZGG Guideline comparison template

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