

Clinical Practice Guidelines: International Consensus on Methodological Standards

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Guidelines International Network



Arbeitsgemeinschaft der
Wissenschaftlichen
Medizinischen
Fachgesellschaften e.V.



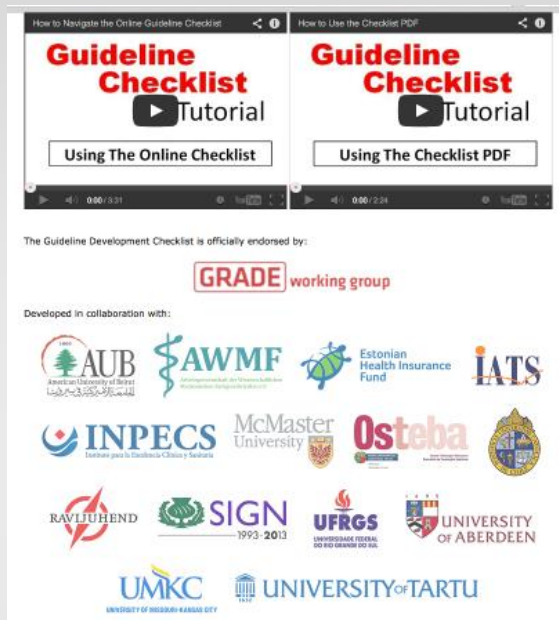
Clinical Practice Guidelines: consensus on methodological principles



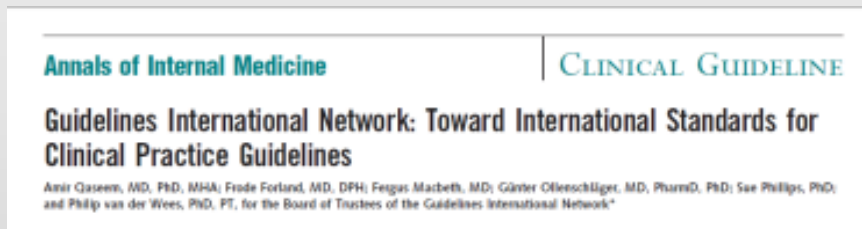
agreetrust.org



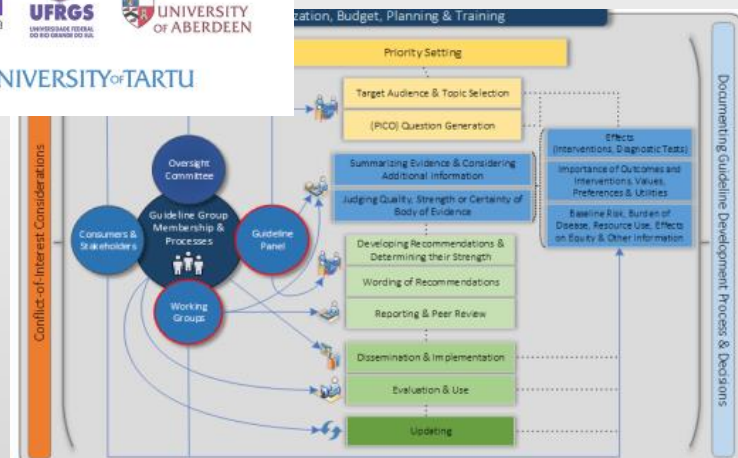
iom.edu



G-I-N – McMaster Guideline Development Checklist



g-i-n.net



<http://cebgrade.mcmaster.ca/guidecheck.html>



Principles of Guideline Development:

1. Transparency

IOM standard 1.1:

The process by which a clinical practice guideline (CPG) is developed and funded should be detailed explicitly and publicly accessible.

➔ a transparent development process makes clear how authors weighed evidence, pathophysiologic reasoning, expert experience, values of patients and the society and allows users to judge reasonableness of recommendations



Principles of Guideline Development:

2. Stakeholder Involvement

The Guideline Development Group should be multidisciplinary and balanced including representatives of

professional groups

- medical speciality societies
- professional associations
- methodological experts

target population and patients

➡ those, who are addressed/affected by the recommendations

NOT: industry (however: may be consulted)

German Breast Cancer Guideline:
n= 30 societies/organisations



Example: <http://www.awmf.org/leitlinien/detail/II/032-045OL.html>



Principles of Guideline Development:

3. Systematic Review of the Evidence

- Establish cooperation of clinicians and methodologists
- Document strategy used to search and select evidence in a way it can be reproduced by others
- Identify risks of bias-critically appraise the evidence
- Document results: evidence tables / profiles

GRADE profile 1: Colonoscopic surveillance compared with no surveillance for IBD

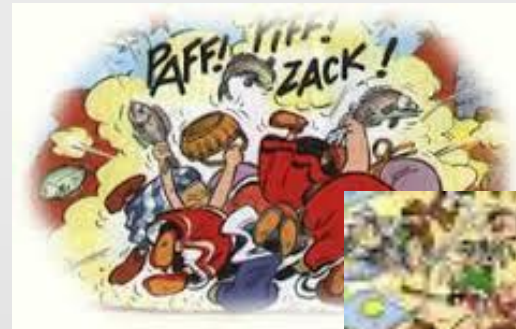
No. of studies	Design	Colonoscopic surveillance	No colonoscopic surveillance	ORRR (95% CI) (AARR) NNTB (95% CI)	Limitations	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Quality
Outcome 1: detected carcinoma at early stage (Duke's stage A or B; AJCC stage 0 or 1)										
1 (C)	Case-control study	Duke's stage A or B 15/19 (79.0%)	9/22 (40.9%)	OR = 5.42 (1.14 to 23.95) RR = 1.93 (1.15 to 3.51) (AARR = 0.38) NNTB = 2.63 (1.62 to 13.11)	N	N	N	N	N	no Low
1 (Ls)	Case-control study	AJCC stage 0 or 1 12/23 (52.2%)	29/115* (24.3%)	OR = 3.39 (1.23 to 9.45) RR = 2.14 (1.24 to 3.43) (AARR = 0.28) NNTB = 3.60 (2.08 to 14.96)						
Outcome 2: detected carcinoma at advanced stage (Duke's stage C or D; AJCC stage 3B-C and 4)										
1 (C)	Case-control study	Duke's stage C or D 4/19 (21.1%)	13/22 (59.1%)	OR = 0.18 (0.03 to 0.88) RR = 0.36 (0.14 to 0.83) (AARR = 0.36) NNTB = 2.63 (1.62 to 13.11)	N	N	N	N	N	no Low
1 (Ls)	Case-control study	AJCC stage 3B-C and 4 4/23 (17.4%)	49/115 (41.7%)	OR = 0.29 (0.07 to 0.97) RR = 0.42 (0.16 to 0.92) (AARR = 0.243) NNTB = 4.12 (2.56 to 35.38)						

NICE Clinical Guideline 118, 2011:
Evidence profile (GRADE)
Colonoscopic surveillance for prevention of CRC in patients with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease or adenomas

Principles of Guideline Development:

4. Structured Consensus Process

- formal, evidence based techniques to avoid bias (preferably Nominal Group and Delphi)
- guided by an independent, experienced moderator
- ensuring effective group interaction
- avoiding bias, such as :
 - selection of participants
 - majority / minority influence
 - social loafing
 - groupthink
 - brainstorming
- documentation of processes and results
- allowing for scientifically justified dissent



Principles of Guideline Development:

5. Management of Conflicts of Interest

1. Guideline developers should make all possible efforts to not include members with direct financial or relevant indirect COIs
2. The definition of COI and its management applies to all members of a Guideline Development Group...and this should be determined before a panel is constituted
3. A GDG should use standardized forms for disclosure of interests
4. A GDG should disclose interests publicly, including all direct financial and indirect COI
5. All members of a GDG should declare and update any changes in interests at each meeting of the group and at regular intervals
6. Chairs of GDGs should have no direct financial or relevant indirect COI. When COIs of a chair are avoidable, a co-chair with no COIs should be appointed
7. Experts with relevant COI and specific knowledge or expertise may be permitted to participate in discussion of individual topics, but there should be an appropriate balance of opinion
8. No member of the GDG deciding about the direction or strength of a recommendation should have a direct financial COI
9. An oversight committee should be responsible for developing and implementing rules related to COI.

Ann Intern Med. 2015;163:548-553, available open access:
<http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2450219>



Reporting Standards for Guideline-based Performance Measures

1. Quality of the Guideline according to G-I-N Standards and AGREE II and of additional [evidence] sources, if used
2. Quality of evidence and/or the strength of recommendation qualifying the guideline recommendations to be used for PM development
3. Consensus methods used to select the PM from guideline recommendations
4. Consideration of core PM attributes:
 - Relevance (as a minimum: potential for improvement/clinical relevance)
 - Scientific Soundness (as a minimum: the evidence supporting the measure)
 - Feasibility (as a minimum: clarity of definition and measurability)
5. Unambiguous Specification of Numerator and Denominator
6. Intended use of the PM (e.g. quality improvement, quality assurance with or without accountability purposes as p4p, public reporting) and level in the health system (local, regional, national)
7. Practice test of PM prior to their broader implementation and routine use
8. Review and reevaluation: criteria for deciding to change or stop using PM
9. Composition of the panel deciding on PM

*Nothacker M. et al, G-I-N Performance Measures Working Group
in press*



Clinical Practice Guidelines: Definitions

Systematically developed statements

to assist physicians and, if necessary, other healthcare professionals and patients

with decisions about appropriate health care in specific clinical circumstances

Statements that include recommendations intended to optimize patient care

that are informed by a systematic review of evidence and an assessment of the benefits and harms

of alternative care options.



Standards: ISO Definitions

A **normative document**,

developed according to **consensus procedures**,
which has been **approved by** the **ISO** membership and P-
members of the responsible committee

in accordance with Part 1 of the ISO/IEC Directives as a draft
International Standard and/or as a final draft International
Standard and which has been published by the ISO Central
Secretariat.

...a document that provides **requirements, specifications,
guidelines or characteristics**

that can be used consistently to ensure that materials,
products, processes and services are fit for their purpose.



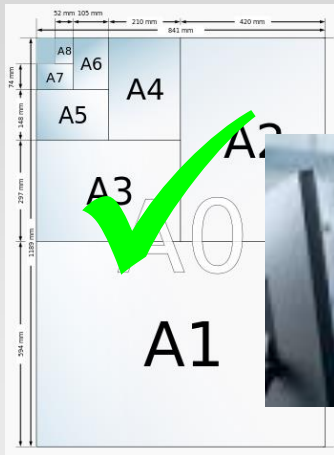
International Organization for Standardization:
<http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards.htm>



Definition and Methodological Principles: Differences between Standards and Guidelines

	Standards	Guidelines
trigger for development	market requirement, need for standardisation	improvement potential, public health need, need for information about new technologies
stakeholder involvement	interested parties, including experts from the industrial, technical and business sectors “entrance fee”	healthcare professionals, patient representatives, methodologists- industry not allowed, applicants with conflicts of interests restricted
methodology of development	informal consensus, informed by evidence, dissent not reported	systematic review of the evidence, structured consensus (formal techniques)
key aspects covered	technical specifications, systems, persons	clinical health care services, interventions
goal for assessment of implementation	conformity (normative requirements)	appropriateness (reference ranges)
availability	for a fee	for free
responsiveness to new evidence	relatively low	relatively high

Standards: need for a discussion about indications and contraindications



ISO 216 paper sizes

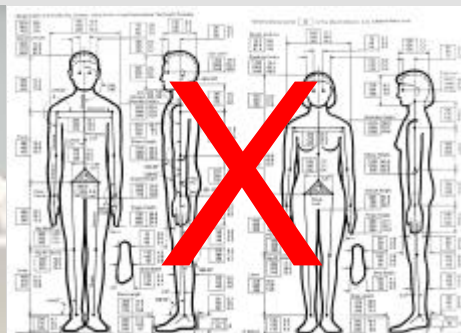


DIN EN ISO 15189:2014, 17025:2005
medical laboratories



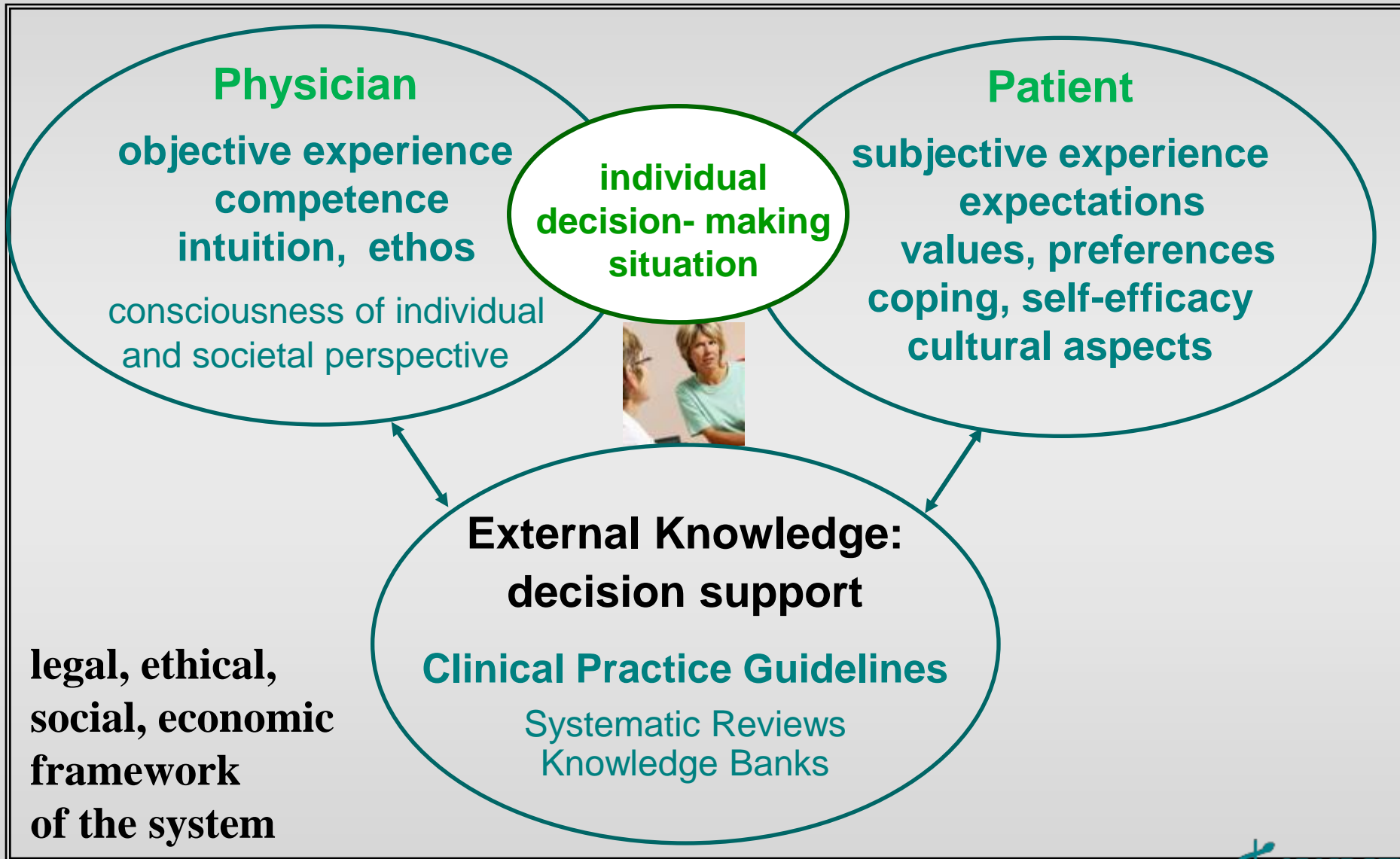
DIN EN ISO/IEC 17021:2011
certification bodies for
management systems
DIN EN ISO 9001:2008
quality management
DIN EN ISO/IEC 17024:2012
certification bodies for
persons

shared
decisions

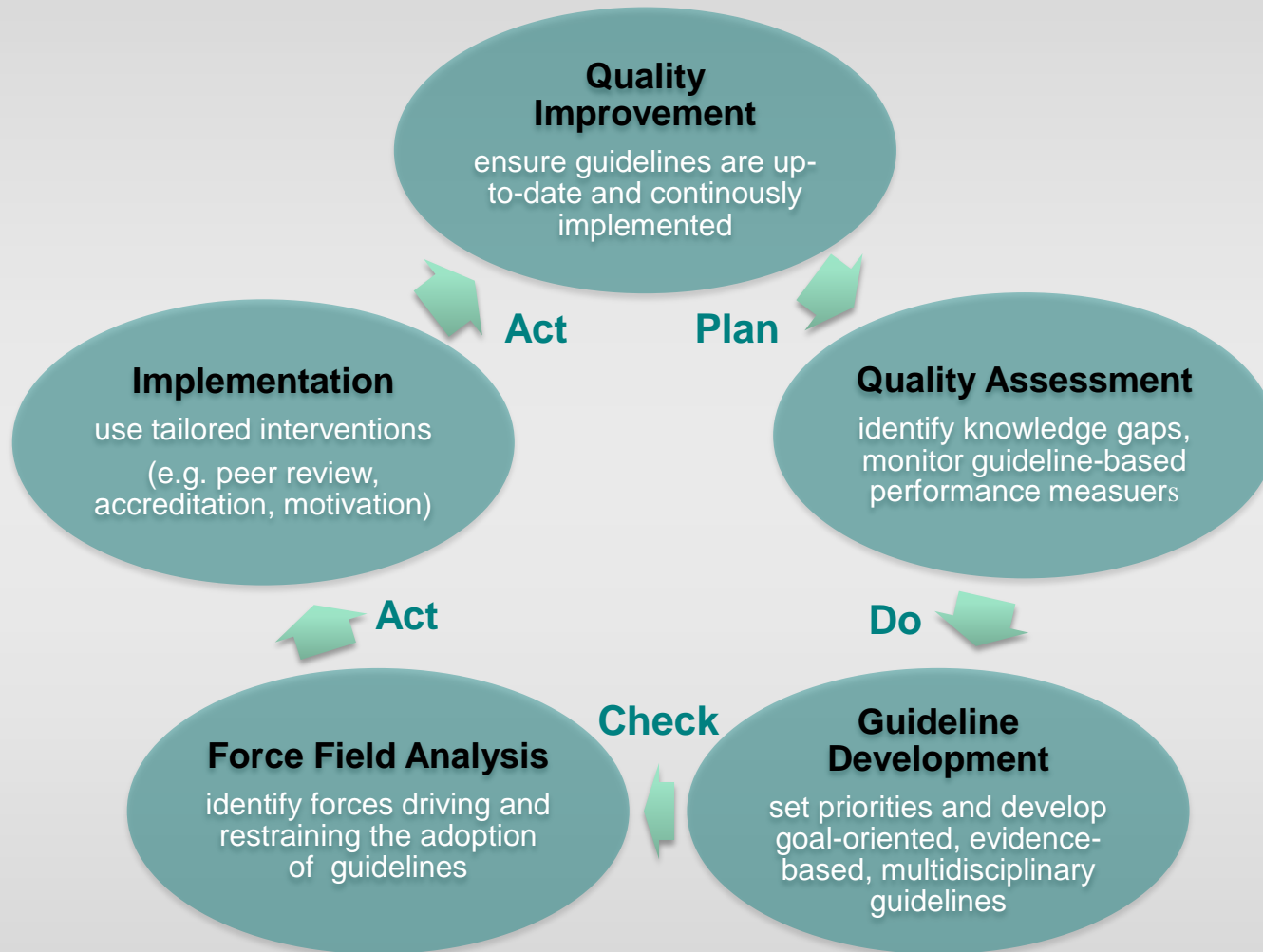


patients

Patient's right to appropriate health care on an individualised basis



Outlook: Clinical Practice Guidelines at the Core of the PDCA Cycle



Outlook: Guidelines may be the way forward to improve quality at the european level

FORWARD LOOK *David Chalmer*
Implementation of Medical Research in Clinical Practice

www.esf.org

PUBLIC HEALTH

European Commission > Public health > European Reference Networks > Policy

EUROPEAN REFERENCE NETWORKS

All topics Policy Projects

Go back to [European Reference Networks](#) Policy

Policy

Health systems in the European Union seek to provide **high quality and cost effective healthcare**. This is particularly difficult to achieve for **patients who have conditions requiring a concentration of resources or expertise**, even more so for those suffering from **low prevalence and rare diseases**, as expertise is scarce.

Co-operation in healthcare between Member States has increased following the development of EU health policy. Albeit informal in most cases, a number of **networks** were established. Some of these are supported through the [EU Public Health](#) and [Research Programmes](#), in particular in the area of **rare diseases**, **paediatric cancer** and **neurological complex diseases**.

Though, such co-operation was mainly based on **bilateral agreements** or **common projects** in specific fields. Also, **accessibility to healthcare for patients** varies across the EU. More efficient and coordinated sharing of resources and expertise was thus needed, and can be achieved through the creation of **European Reference Networks (ERNs)**.

Concentrating resources and expertise

The European Reference Networks (ERNs) **bring together** highly specialised healthcare providers from different Member States. They help provide **affordable, high-quality and cost-effective healthcare** to patients with conditions requiring a **particular concentration of resources or expertise**.

The **objectives** of the ERNs are seen best achievable at EU level. These encompass:

- **better access of patients** to highly specialised and high quality and safe care,
- **European co-operation** on highly specialised healthcare,
- **pooling knowledge**,

Conclusions

- The development process of a guideline and accompanying performance measures must be outlined in detail in a method-report
- The method report should be outlined at the beginning of a guideline project – agenda for all, who are involved
- Clinical Practice Guidelines are the instruments to optimise health care delivery by assisting professionals and patients to make informed decisions, taking into account the needs of individuals
- We need to differentiate between Standards and guideline-based performance measures