



## Poster 14 – 2018 Nordic Implementation Conference

### National Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance

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#### *Background*

Clinical practice guidance includes clinical policies, procedures, protocols and guidelines. It is important that the development of all clinical guidance uses an evidence-based approach, to ensure evidence-based clinical policy.

#### *Project aim*

This project aimed to develop national standards for healthcare staff developing clinical practice guidance in Ireland, to improve the development and implementation of evidence-based clinical policy in the Irish health system.

- Develop National Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance.
- Standardised methodology and terminology.
- Minimise duplication in the health system.
- Improve the development and implementation of evidence-based clinical policy.
- Integrate into national health system regulatory processes.
- Translation of evidence into policy & practice.

#### *Project methods*

The Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance were developed by the Clinical Effectiveness Unit (Department of Health, Ireland). A systematic literature review was conducted. An expert advisory group was convened, with multidisciplinary representation from both public and private health services and a public consultation process was carried out.

#### *Project results*

The Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance were published by the Department of Health. These Standards will promote consistency of approach and utilisation of appropriate methodology to develop evidence-based clinical practice guidance nationally.

Clinical effectiveness is a key component of patient safety and quality. The integration of best evidence in service provision, through clinical effectiveness processes such as clinical practice guidance, promotes healthcare that is evidence-based, up-to-date and effective.

#### *Preliminary or final conclusions/discussion*

- Through consistency in approach and reduction in duplication, variation in practice can be reduced.
- These standards aim to translate evidence into policy and practice, closing the gap between research and clinical care.
- The standards support the implementation of evidence-based sustainable solutions in healthcare, ultimately providing better quality health services for our patients.