

Assignment guide

The purpose of this exercise is to make appraisal of a guideline / document of your choice. It requires you to carefully read the guideline in detail and also read other documents treating the same topic as the guideline, that you study.

Review means to question the information and opinions in the guideline and to present your evaluation with your own words.

In order to make an appropriate review you should try to study topic that the guideline treats from different perspectives (i.e. read other related documents).

Structure of assignment

A short summary of the guideline/document

It is a self-contained, short, and powerful statement that describes in few paragraphs the guideline. You give overall information on the guideline in a short text. Your summary should contain key points, which are important to be mentioned.

The summary is an original document written by you, not an excerpted passage taken from the guideline/document.

Literature search

The aim of literature search is to identify the most relevant resources related to the topic and to your country that the guideline treats.

You are required to put into practice the material & tools that the course provides on literature search; in-order to make a systematic and thorough search on topic of your interest (print or electronics documents, books, journal, encyclopaedias and other guidelines).

Guideline appraisal

This part consists of a series of questions that you are required to answer in your own words. Please avoid answering only by **Yes or No**.

1. Scope and purpose of guideline

- 1.1. The objectives of the guideline are specifically defined?
- 1.2. The questions covered by the guideline are specifically described?
- 1.3. The patient/community/group of people (women, men, children, adolescents...) to which the guideline is meant to apply is specifically described?

2. Stakeholder involvement

- 2.1. The guideline was developed with the involvement of different relevant professional group?
- 2.2. Patients and target groups views and preference have been sought?
- 2.3. Who are the users of this guideline (doctors, nurses, midwives, health workers etc.)?
- 2.4. Has the guideline been piloted among target users?

3. Guideline Development

- 3.1. Systematic methods were used to search for evidence?
- 3.2. Criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described?
- 3.3. Methods used for formulating the recommendations are clearly described?
- 3.4. The health benefits, side effects and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations?
- 3.5. There is an explicit link between the recommendations and the supporting evidence?
- 3.6. Procedure for upgrading the guideline is provided?
- 3.7. The recommendations are specific and unambiguous (clear)?
- 3.9. Key recommendations are easily identifiable, practical and strong?
- 3.10. Guideline is supported with tools for application?
- 3.11. Has the guideline had peer review and testing?

4. Applicability

- 4.1. Is this guideline known in your professional environment?

4.2. Are the recommendations applicable to your professional practice, are they applied in your country?

If not:

4.2.1. What are the barriers to implement this guideline in your professional practice?

Some factors, which limit the applicability of guideline:

- Financial factors
- Organisational (lack of human resource, skills, material and equipment)
- Peer group (difference between local standards and desired practice)
- Individual factors (lack of knowledge and skills)

4.2.2. What are the guidelines used in your institution/country (please provide references or documents)

4.3. Would you recommend this guideline in your professional practice or in your country?

5. Conclusion