Section 2.3

Knowledge Translation Tools

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Products / Tools

Key Points:

• Systematic reviews form the foundation of many knowledge translation activities

• Implementation efforts should ensure high quality clinical practice guidelines and patient decision aids are used

• Implementation of patient decision aids can improve quality decision
Knowledge Tools

- Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Patients Decision Aids

- Used to assist clinicians and patients to make evidence-based decisions
- Provide an explicit evidence-based description of the risk and benefits of an intervention
- Outline where evidence is lacking
What are Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs)?

• Systematically developed statements aimed to assist clinicians and patients in making decision about appropriate health care for specific clinical circumstances

Systematic vs. arbitrary
Assist and not supplant decision making
Not formulaic protocols
CPGs – Essential Elements

- Establish multidisciplinary team
- Identify question
- Systematic review of evidence
- Appraise and interpret evidence
- Draft recommendations
- External review of draft
Products / Tools

CPGs – Essential Elements

• External review of draft
• Revise recommendation
• Dissemination
• Implementation
Products / Tools

CPGs – Do They Work?
Systematic review by Grimshaw et al*

10% improvement in processes and outcomes of care

* J Gen Intern Med 2006 Feb;21 Suppl 2:S14-20
* Health Technol Assess 2004 Feb;8(6):iii-iv, 1-72
CPGs – Determining Quality

AGREE (www.agreetrust.org)

- International standard of guideline development, reporting and evaluation
- 6 quality domains (23 items)
  - Scope and purpose
  - Stakeholder Involvement
  - Clarity of Presentation
  - Rigour of Development
  - Applicability
  - Editorial Independence
Products / Tools

CPGs – Determining Quality

GLIA (Guideline Implementability Appraisal) Tool *

- Provides perspective by assessing extent to which recommendations are implementable

*http://nutmeg.med.yale.edu/glia
Products / Tools

Patient Decision Aids – What are They?

- Translate evidence into patient friendly tools to:
  - Inform patients on options
  - Clarify value placed on benefits vs harm
  - Guide in processing of decision making
Patient Decision Aids – Essential Elements

- Evidence-based information on condition, options and outcomes tailored to patient clinical situations
- Risk communication regarding outcomes and uncertainty
- Values clarification – what is most important to the patient
- Guidance in deliberating and communicating with others
Products / Tools

Patient Decision Aids – Do They Work?

Coulter and Ellins, review of reviews (2007)

• Improve participation in decision-making
• Patient’s knowledge of options
• Facilitate agreement between values and subsequent decisions
Products / Tools

Patient Decision Aids – Determining Quality

• International Patient Decision Aids Standards Collaboration

• [www.ohri.ca/decisionaid](http://www.ohri.ca/decisionaid)

• Domains of quality include:
  – essential content
  – development
  – evaluation
Evidence Gaps – What is Required?

- Research efforts should focus on areas to advance our understanding of knowledge tools, including:
  - Strategies to enhance understanding and implementation of systematic review (syntheses) and guidelines and patient decision aids
  - Impact of patient decision aids on important clinical outcomes
  - Studies of validity and reliability of the International Patient Aids Standard