### Do the study purpose/objectives and inclusion/exclusion criteria assist in answering your clinical question?

- **Study Purpose/Objective:**
  - [ ] Yes
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Unknown

- **Inclusion Criteria:**

- **Exclusion Criteria:**

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### Scope and Purpose

1. **Were the overall objective(s) of the recommendation specifically described?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Unknown

   *Comments:*

2. **Were the health question(s) covered by the recommendation specifically described?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Unknown

   *Comments:*

3. **Was the population (*patients, public, etc.*) to whom the recommendation is meant to apply specifically described?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Unknown

   *Comments:*

---

### Stakeholder Involvement

4. **Did the guideline development group include individuals from all the relevant professional groups?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Unknown

   *Comments:*

5. **Were the views and preferences of the target population (*patients, public, etc.*) sought?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Unknown

   *Comments:*
6. Were the target user(s) of the guideline clearly defined?  
   [Comments:]

   [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

7. Were systematic methods used to search for evidence?  
   [Comments:]

   [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

8. Were the criteria for selecting the evidence clearly described?  
   [Comments:]

   [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

9. Were the strengths and limitations of the body of evidence clearly described?  
   [Comments:]

   [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

10. Were the methods used for formulating the recommendations clearly described?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

11. Were the health benefits, side effects, and risks considered in formulating recommendations?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

12. Was there an explicit link between the recommendations and the supporting evidence?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

13. Was the guideline externally reviewed by experts prior to its publication?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

14. Was a procedure for updating the guideline provided?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]

15. Were the recommendations specific and unambiguous?  
    [Comments:]

    [Yes] [No] [Unknown]
16. Were the different options for management of the condition or health issue clearly presented?
   Comments:
   □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

17. Were key recommendations easily identifiable?
   Comments:
   □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

APPLICABILITY

18. Did the guideline describe facilitators and barriers to its application?
   Comments:
   □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

19. Did the guideline provide advice and/or tools on how the recommendations can be put into practice?
   Comments:
   □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

20. Were the potential resource implications of applying the recommendations considered?
    Comments:
    □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

21. Did the guideline present monitoring and/or auditing criteria?
    Comments:
    □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE

22. Was the content of the guideline free from any influence of views of the funding body?
    Comments:
    □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

23. Were competing interests of guideline development group members recorded and addressed?
    Comments:
    □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

24. Would you include this guideline in development of a care recommendation?
    Comments:
    □ Yes □ No □ Unknown
### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS (“TAKE-HOME POINTS”):

**QUALITY LEVEL / EVIDENCE LEVEL**

- Consider each “No” answer and the degree to which this limitation is a threat to the validity of the results, then check the appropriate box to assign the level of quality for this study/article.
- Consider an “Unknown” answer to one or more questions as a similar limitation to answering “No,” if the information is not available in the article.

**THE EVIDENCE LEVEL IS:**

- [ ] Good Quality Guideline
- [ ] Lesser Quality Guideline
- [ ] Not Valid, Reliable, or Applicable

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**Table of Evidence Levels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF STUDY / STUDY DESIGN</th>
<th>Domain of Clinical Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis</td>
<td>1a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meta-Synthesis</td>
<td>1b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychometric Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort - Prospective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort - Retrospective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case - Control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longitudinal Study [Before/After, Time-Series]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross - Sectional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive Study</td>
<td>4a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
<td>4b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Series</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Improvement [QoI]</td>
<td>2/3/4a/b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Methods Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Simulation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines</td>
<td>5a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Reports</td>
<td>5b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-of-1 Study</td>
<td>5a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bench Study</td>
<td>5a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Expert Opinion</td>
<td>5b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Abstracts</td>
<td>5b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Consensus</td>
<td>5a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Abstracts</td>
<td>5b</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*RCT = Randomized Controlled Trial; CCT = Controlled Clinical Trial*

**Development of this form is based on:**