

Poster

Availability and implementation of guidelines at a tertiary referral hospital in Sydney

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Clinical Practice Guideline	We reviewed the availability, development and implementation strategies of all clinical practice guidelines in 1 clinical department (currently extending this to a further 8 departments) in a teaching hospital. All 29 clinical practice guidelines were developed by clinical staff within the department.
Stakeholders	We worked with health care professionals (medical, nursing, scientists) in the clinical department to identify the availability of the guidelines and the development and implementation strategies used.
Evidence-practice gap	To better understand the availability and implementation of clinical practice guidelines in different clinical departments of a tertiary referral hospital.
Implementation strategies	The study was to identify the availability of the guidelines and their implementation. We extracted information from each of the guidelines and discussed them with senior staff of the department. Barriers and enablers for the effective implementation perceived by senior staff were identified during the face-to-face interview.
Data	Review of existing clinical practice guidelines was used to identify the availability of the guidelines. Face-to-face interview using a revised AGREE instrument was used to identify the development process and the barriers and enhancers for the implementation of the guidelines.
Results	The pilot study (1 department) showed that notification by email, newsletters, hard copy notices and regular departmental meetings were the major implementation strategies. There was no formal monitoring or evaluation of guideline use.
Barriers	Some challenges identified included clinicians being too busy, not interested and not considering the guidelines as important or a priority to their work.
Enablers	Guidelines needed to be considered clinically useful and relevant to clinicians with clinician leaders being seen to promote the use of the guidelines.
Resources	The study was supported by Centre for Health Services Research at Westmead Hospital, Western Sydney Area Health Service.
Key message	Guidelines have to be user-orientated, and recognised by the clinicians as being needed and of use to them during their clinical work. The guidelines must be simple and easy to use and follow.
* Presenter Bio	Yang Guo, Health Services Researcher, obtained her medical degree at Dalian Medical University, China and has worked as a clinician for over five years. She graduated with a Masters degree in Public Health from University of New South Wales and has experience in health care quality and safety research and evidence-based clinical practice.