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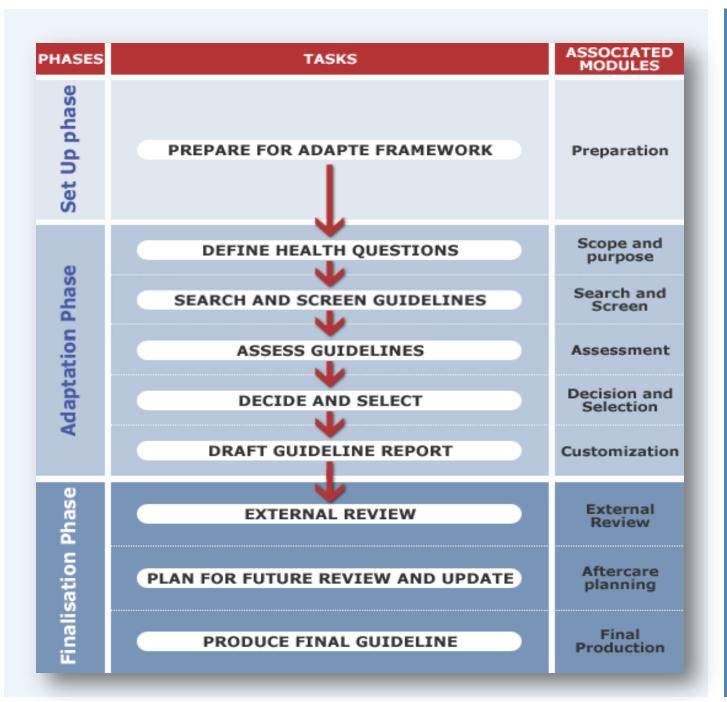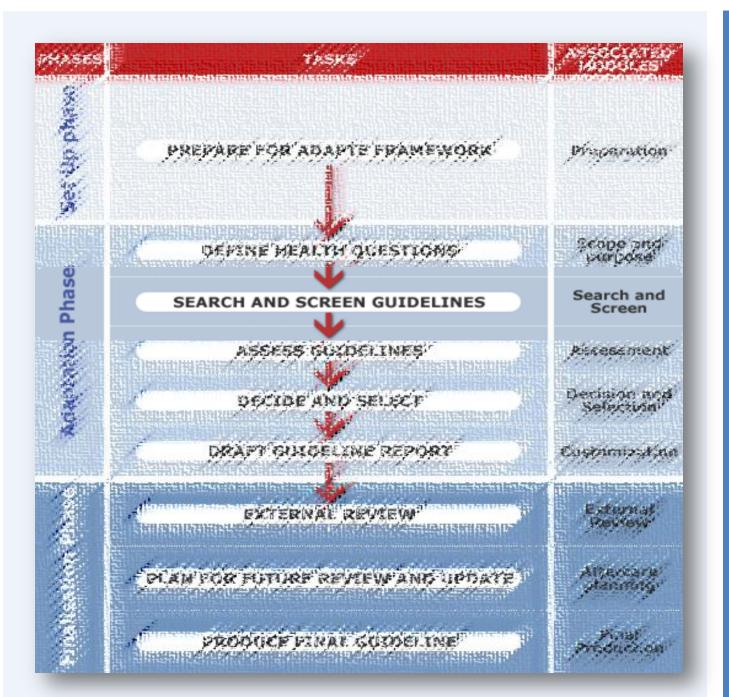# HOW TO SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDELINES

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PHASES	TASKS	ASSOCIATED MODULES
Set Up phase	PREPARE FOR ADAPTE FRAMEWORK	Preparation
Adaptation Phase	DEFINE HEALTH QUESTIONS	Scope and purpose
	SEARCH AND SCREEN GUIDELINES	Search and Screen
	ASSESS GUIDELINES	Assessment
	DECIDE AND SELECT	Decision and Selection
	DRAFT GUIDELINE REPORT	Customization
Finalisation Phase	EXTERNAL REVIEW	External Review
	PLAN FOR FUTURE REVIEW AND UPDATE	Aftercare planning
	PRODUCE FINAL GUIDELINE	Final Production

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ADAPTATION PROCESS

2

ADAPTATION PROCESS

Search and screen

SEARCH STEPS

- **Search for guidelines and relevant documents**
  - **By clinical librarians along with clinical experts**
  - **Systematic search based on clinical questions**

- **Screen retrieved documents**
  - **By clinical and methodological experts**

SEARCH FOR GUIDELINES

- PIPOH
  - **P**opulation
  - **I**ntervention
  - **P**rofessionals & Patients
  - **O**utcome
  - **H**ealth care setting

HEALTH QUESTION

- **Structured**
- **Clear**
- **patient focused**
- **Numbers of the questions depends on topic and scope**
  - *Questions may be refined during the search*

- **Main areas for questions:**
  - **Treatment**
    - **RCTs**
  - **Prognosis**
    - **Cohort studies, Cross-sectional studies**
  - **Diagnosis**
    - **Cross-sectional studies, Cohort studies**

- **Limitations**
  - **Language**
  - **Date**
    - Depends on the topic, panel members agreement, publication type, …
  - **Publication type**
  - **Guideline developer group**
  - **Evidence-based materials**
  - …

PIPOH (scope of topic)	HEALTH QUESTIONS (specific, detailed, patient focused)
Population:	1
Intervention:	2
Professionals/Patients:	
Outcome:	3
Healthcare Setting:	4

LIMITS of Search
1
2
3
4
5

EVIDENCE SOURCES

- Databases

- Organizations

- Ministry of Health

- EMRO

PUBLICATION TYPES

- Clinical Guidelines

- Systematic Reviews

- Health Technology Assessments (HTAs)

- RCTs

- National Epidemiological Studies (Prevalence/Incidence)

GUIDELINE SEARCHING

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SEARCH STRATEGY

- **Search engines:**

  - **Keywords (based on clinical questions and PIPOH)**

    AND
    (Guideline* [in Title]
    OR
      Recommendation* [in Title]
    OR
      Standard* [in Title])

- **Pubmed:**
  - **Limit "Publication Type" to: <u>Practice Guideline</u>**

GUIDELINES CURRENCY

- **Depends on topic**
  - **About 3 years**

- **For older guidelines:**
  - **Search for updating information**
    - **Systematic reviews**
    - **HTAs**
    - **RCTs**

GUIDELINES CHARACTERISTICS

Title	Publisher	Country, language	Publication date	End of search date	Comments
....					
....					
....					
....					
....					
....					
....					

		Actual content of guidelines (CPG) (indicate with ☑ if included in guideline)			
		CPG #1	CPG #2	CPG #3	CPG #4
Health question #1					
Health question #2					
Health question #3					
Health question #4					
Health question #5					
Health question #6					
Population	Insert definition here				
Intervention(s)	Insert definition here				
Professionals/patients	Insert definition here				
Outcome	Insert definition here				
Healthcare setting	Insert definition here				

SELECTING STUDIES

- Selecting criteria should be based on:
  - clinical questions
  - Inclusion/exclusion criteria
  - Discussion in Panel

- Eliminating irrelevant studies by scanning:
  1. Titles
  2. Abstracts

- Double checking of random studies for reducing any bias in selecting

DOCUMENTING

- Document the search steps:
  - keywords,
  - Search strategies,
  - Limits,
  - Any changes in strategies or keywords and etc.
  - Retrieved evidences
  - Study selection

- Why?
  - It's necessary for next refers
  - Ensure covering scope and question
  - Updating the search *(if necessary)*

ANY QUESTIONS?