Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline

Honoring America's Service-members and Veterans by supporting evidence-based, patient-centered care that improves their health and well-being!

Clinical Practice Guidelines
• Systematically developed statements to assist with practitioner and patient decisions about appropriate health care for various circumstances (Institute of Medicine, 1998)

Guidelines -- Tools to ....
• Decrease variation
• Improve research utilization
• Prevent errors
• Promote appropriate amount of care
• Improve resource utilization
• Promote accountability
• Guide learning
• Stimulate research

Coordination of Guidelines and Guideline Tools ....
• Facilitates continuity of care across systems for patients and providers
• Secures unity of effort
• Improves provider and customer satisfaction
• Decreases development costs

Guidelines and Tools

VA/DoD Personnel Only
Order Clinical Practice Guidelines and Patient/Provider Tools on:
DoD: https://www.qmo.amedd.army.mil/
VA: https://www.lms.va.gov/plateau/user/login.jsp

Guideline Implementation Steps
Know the Clinical Practice Guideline
Assess Current Practice Patterns in Your Setting
Compare Practice Patterns with CPG Recommendations
Identify “Gaps” in Practice
Identify “Barriers” to Closing Each Gap
Develop an “Action Plan” which Identifies Strategies to Overcome Each of the Identified Barrier
Implement the “Action Plan”
Develop a System to Monitor Practice Change

Order Clinical Practice Guidelines and Patient/Provider Tools on:
DoD: https://www.qmo.amedd.army.mil/
VA: https://www.lms.va.gov/plateau/user/login.jsp
The VA/DoD Evidence-Based Practice Working Group - A Health Executive Council (HEC) Working Group...

- Adapting, developing, and updating evidence-based clinical practice guidelines.
- Facilitating on-going implementation of evidence-based clinical advances into practice.
- Championing the integration of evidence-based clinical practice into current and developing information systems.
- Fostering integration of evidence-based practice into VA/DoD initiatives related to health promotion, disease prevention, and wellness initiatives.
- Assessing the effectiveness of implementation and making recommendations to maximize performance improvement.
- Identifying opportunities and making recommendations for research related to evidence-based practice within VA/DoD.

Current Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs):

- Chronic Disease (in Primary Care)
  - Asthma
  - Chronic Heart Failure
  - Chronic Kidney Disease
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
  - Diabetes Mellitus
  - Dyslipidemia
  - Hypertension
  - Ischemic Heart Disease
  - Obesity and Overweight
  - Tobacco Use

- Mental Health
  - Bipolar Disorder in Adults
  - Major Depressive Disorder
  - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
  - Substance Use Disorder

Current Clinical Practice Guidelines (continued):

- Pain
  - Opioid Therapy for Chronic Pain
  - Lower Back Pain
  - Post-Operative Pain

- Rehabilitation
  - Concussion-mTBI
  - Lower Limb Amputation
  - Stroke Rehabilitation

- Military Unique
  - Medically Unexplained Symptoms
  - Post-Deployment Health

- Women’s Health
  - Pregnancy

Get educated about CPGs!
- On-line continuing education about CPGs is available

Get Involved in CPG Development!
- Clinicians can impact the CPG development process through:
  - Proposal of a CPG topic
  - Input into the CPG review process
  - Feedback regarding existing CPGs

Get Involved in CPG Implementation At Your Clinic or Facility!
- General information on CPG implementation for
  - Clinical Leaders
  - Team Members
  - is contained in the RAND Manual “Putting CPGs to Work in the DoD Medical System” and the “Putting CPGs to Work in the VHA”

- Implementation tools available for:
  - Patients (brochures, booklets, videos)
  - Providers (CPG summaries, pocket cards, presentations, and ce)