

Criteria for assessing the guideline topic proposal

Frequency of the health problem:

Very common (6 points) - very rare (1 point)
(Incidence; Prevalence)

Extent of burden on the healthcare system:

Very high 4 points - very low 1 point
(Number of visits; Number of procedures; Overlapping treatment periods in various specialties; Need for special training or special devices; Interest or demand from the population; Frequency of unnecessary examinations or treatments)

Economic effects on the healthcare system (estimated extent of change):

High additional costs /or savings (4 points) - no change (1 point)
(Costs of diagnosis and treatment; Expensive individual treatments or investments)

Other social effects:

Significant (3 points) - minor (1 point)
(Absence from work; Disability to work; Retirement; Changes in the division of labour between professional groups; Need for institutional or informal care)

Variation of treatment practices:

Major (5 points) – negligible (1 point)
(Use of different methods; Benchmarking; Schools of practice; Inequality in access to care; Regional variation)

Possibilities for health promotion and disease prevention:

Considerable (3 points) - Small (1 point)
(Prevention on a population level or among high-risk individuals; Lifestyle choices; Effect on quality-weighted years of life)

Effectiveness and adverse effects of treatment:

Effective and risk-free (3 points) - contradicting effects (1 point)
(Availability of effective methods; Possibility of serious adverse effects; Treatment-induced effect on quality-weighted years of life)

Need for information in healthcare:

Great (2 points) - Minor (1 point)
(Contradicting information; New types of methods available; Discussion about values needed)

Section not described in application: 0 points. Maximum points 30.

The essential information and its sources should be described in an annex to the application, using the above classification if possible.