

Role and attitudes of stakeholders in guideline implementation

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Background

Guideline implementation activities rarely depend exclusively on the parent organisation. The interest group activities might be of great help in introducing new treatment practices, targets and increase the evidence-based knowledge of best practice behaviour on certain diseases.

Purpose

Our aim is to describe the role and conception of the interest group leaders in implementation and gather the best implementation strategies and channels.

Methods

An internet-based questionnaire with nine questions, which take about five minutes to answer, was created and sent to relevant interest group leaders in Finland. Questions included: background data of the answerers, attitudes to both current and potential use of guidelines in health care decision making, role of patients and patient organisations in guideline promoting process, and key-activities in implementation. Structured questions was answered in scale 1–5 (1=not at all, 5=very much) and mean value was used in analysing.

Results

Current Care EBM-guidelines are an important factor in the stakeholder organisations. These guidelines are well used to support health care decision making (Figure 1).

Stakeholders who answered the questionnaire thought that role of patient organisations as a commentary is more important than patients. In addition it was thought that the use of patient versions of the guidelines should be more frequent (Figure 2).

The most important implementation routes for CC guidelines were Current Care web site via Terveystieto (mean value 4,4), EBM Guidelines in Terveystieto (mean value 4,4), professional journals (mean value 4,3), Current Care open access web site www.kaypahoito.fi (mean value 4,3) and specialist societies (mean value 4,2).

Figure 1. Current Care guidelines in decision making.

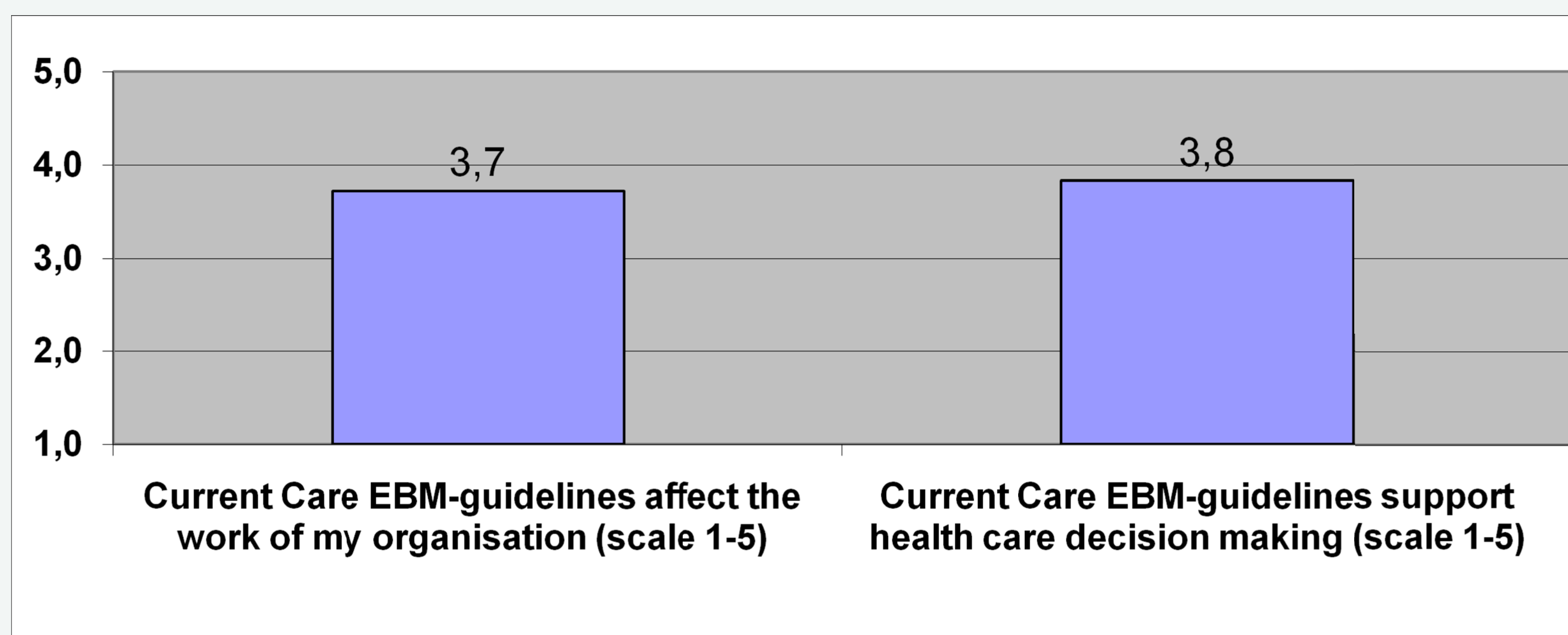
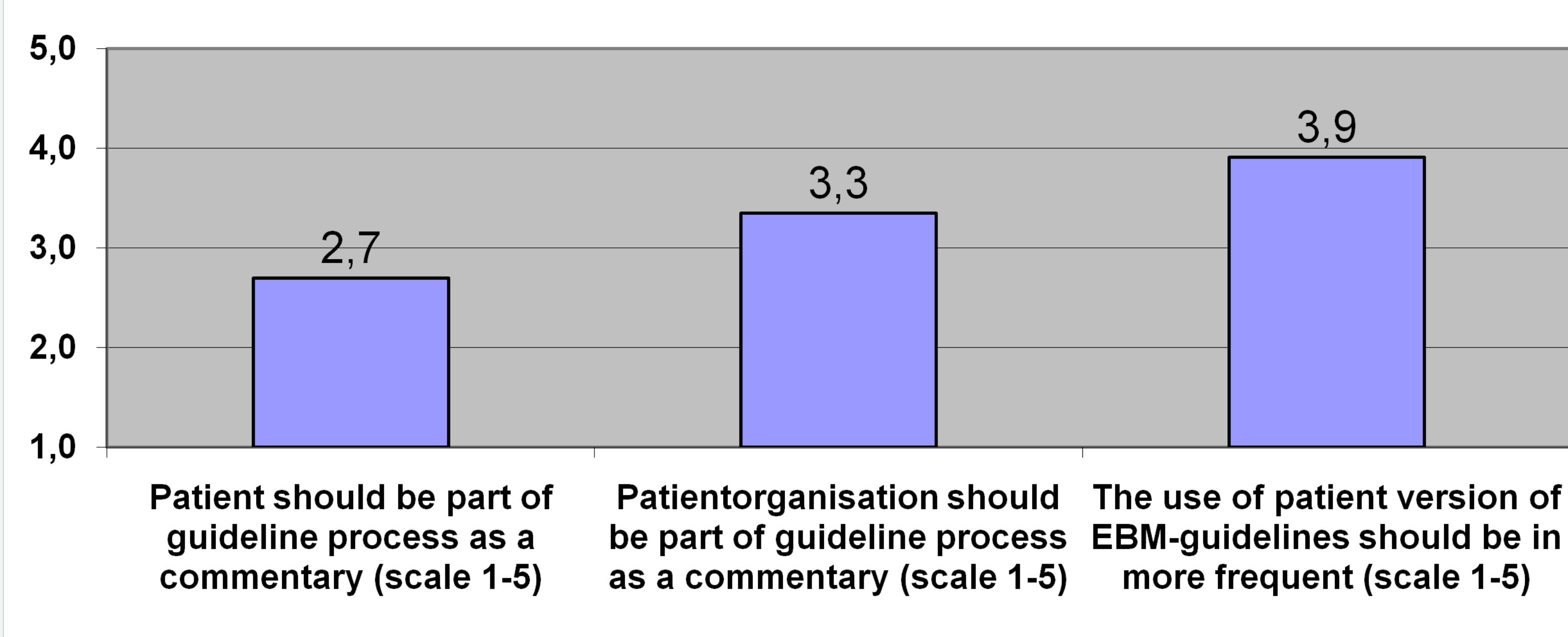


Figure 2. Patientview in guideline process.



Discussion

The expertise of patient organisations needs to be implemented better in the guideline process.

In addition different routes of implementation needs to be taken into account to achieve more effective guideline implementation.