



# Sistema Nazionale Linee Guida Istituto Superiore di Sanità

**National Guidelines System**  
Italian National Institute of Health





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# **Istituto Superiore di Sanità**

## **Guidelines Production**

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## Brief history...

**1999**

### **Programma Nazionale per le Linee Guida**

(PNLG National Programme for Guidelines)

**Funding received:** 1.368,342 euro

**Period:** 1999-2006

#### **Collaboratives Centres:**

Documentation Sector /ISS

Centre for Evaluation of Effectiveness of Health Care (CeVEAS)

Zadig Publishing Agency

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## PNLG products

### **1999- 2006**

- Guideline: Management of influenza syndrome
- Guideline: Antibiotic prophylaxis for adults in peri-operative care
- Guideline: Herniated disk
- Guideline: Cardiologic rehabilitation
  
- Document on: Thyroid diseases
- Document on: HAV and vaccination in Italy
- Document on: Cardiovascular risk charts
- Document on: Tonsillectomy
- Document on: Diagnosis and therapy of ovarian carcinoma

## PNLG products

### **1999- 2006**

- Consensus Conference: HBV and HCV in hospital staff
- Consensus Conference: Management of chronic iper-transaminases in asymptomatic patients
- Consensus Conference: Hepatitis C and screening for adults in Italy
- Systematic Review on Hip prosthesis
- Review on Citizens' participation in health care system

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Today..

**2006**

**Ministero della Salute – Istituto Superiore di Sanità Agreement**

**Funding received:** 1.350,000 euro

**Programme period:** 2007-2009

**Collaborative centres:** Documentation Sector/ISS  
Livorno Local Health Authority  
Ceveas  
Zadig  
Laziosanità-Public Health Agency of Lazio  
Region

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## Ongoing activities...

- Development of clinical practice guidelines
  
  - Implementation activities
    - Educational activities
    - Information activities
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## **Development of clinical practice guidelines: products**

### **Guidelines developed (2007)**

Prevention of the elderly's falls in domestic accident

Early intervention of schizophrenia

### **Guidelines to be updated/reviewed (2007-2009)**

Tonsillectomy

Antibiotic prophylaxis for adults in perioperative care

Influenza syndrome

Preoperative tests

Herniated disk

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## **Development of clinical practice guidelines: products**

### **Guidelines to be developed *ex novo* (2007-2009)**

Diagnostic imaging

Antenatal care

Cesarean section

Prevention of central venous catheter' infections

Selection in transplantation for arthroscopic reconstruction of the anterior cruciate ligament

Management of uncomplicated lower urinary tract infections in adults

### **Consensus Conferences**

Hormone replacement therapy (April 2008)

Thrombotic risk and use of oral progestin (September 2008)

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## **Development of clinical practice guidelines: methodological issues**

- **Creating a multidisciplinary panel**
  
  - **Formulating evidence based  
recommendations**
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# Creating a multidisciplinary panel

A core group is formed by the programme leader



Core group identifies the disciplines linked to the guideline topic



Stakeholder organisations representing health care professionals are invited to propose three clinicians having expertise in the domain



On the basis of the *curricula vitae* presented the core group selects one



Then other members are recruited from professional with relevant expertise and representatives from consumers and patients organizations

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## Creating a multidisciplinary panel

- All members of the panel and the literature reviewers staff are required to complete a declaration of conflicts of interest
  - They are expected to discuss key questions, to define inclusion/exclusion criteria and to identify the controlled terms necessary to build the literature search strategy
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# Formulating evidence based recommendations

- A systematic review of the literature is carried out using an explicit search strategy for each question
- The search usually covers PubMed, Embase, Cochrane databases, but accordingly to the guideline main topic, it may include also other information sources
- Trained personnel performs the critical appraisal of the acquired literature by systematic comparison to methodological standards, using the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) methodological checklists. Evidence tables are used to summarise evidence
- SNLG bases its appraisal on PNLG method that includes six evidence levels (I-VI) and five grades of recommendation (A-E)

## LEVELS OF EVIDENCE

- I High quality meta-analyses, systematic reviews of RCTs, or RCTs with a very low risk of bias
- II Evidence from a single well conducted RCT
- III Non-randomised or quasi-randomised cohort studies or meta-analyses of non-randomised or quasi-randomised cohort studies.
- IV Case-control studies or meta-analysis of case-control studies
- V Non-analytic studies, e.g. case reports, case series
- VI Expert opinion

## GRADES OF RECOMMENDATION

- A The procedure is strongly recommended.  
A body of evidence including studies rated I or II, or less but well conducted.
- B The recommendation of the procedure is doubtful but its application must be carefully considered
- C A body of evidence that does not allow a recommendation in favour or against the procedure
- D The procedure is not recommended
- E A body of evidence that strongly advises against the procedure

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## Finally

- The guideline in draft form is reviewed at least by two independent expert referees, who are asked to comment primarily on the comprehensiveness and accuracy of interpretation of the evidence base supporting the recommendations in the guideline.
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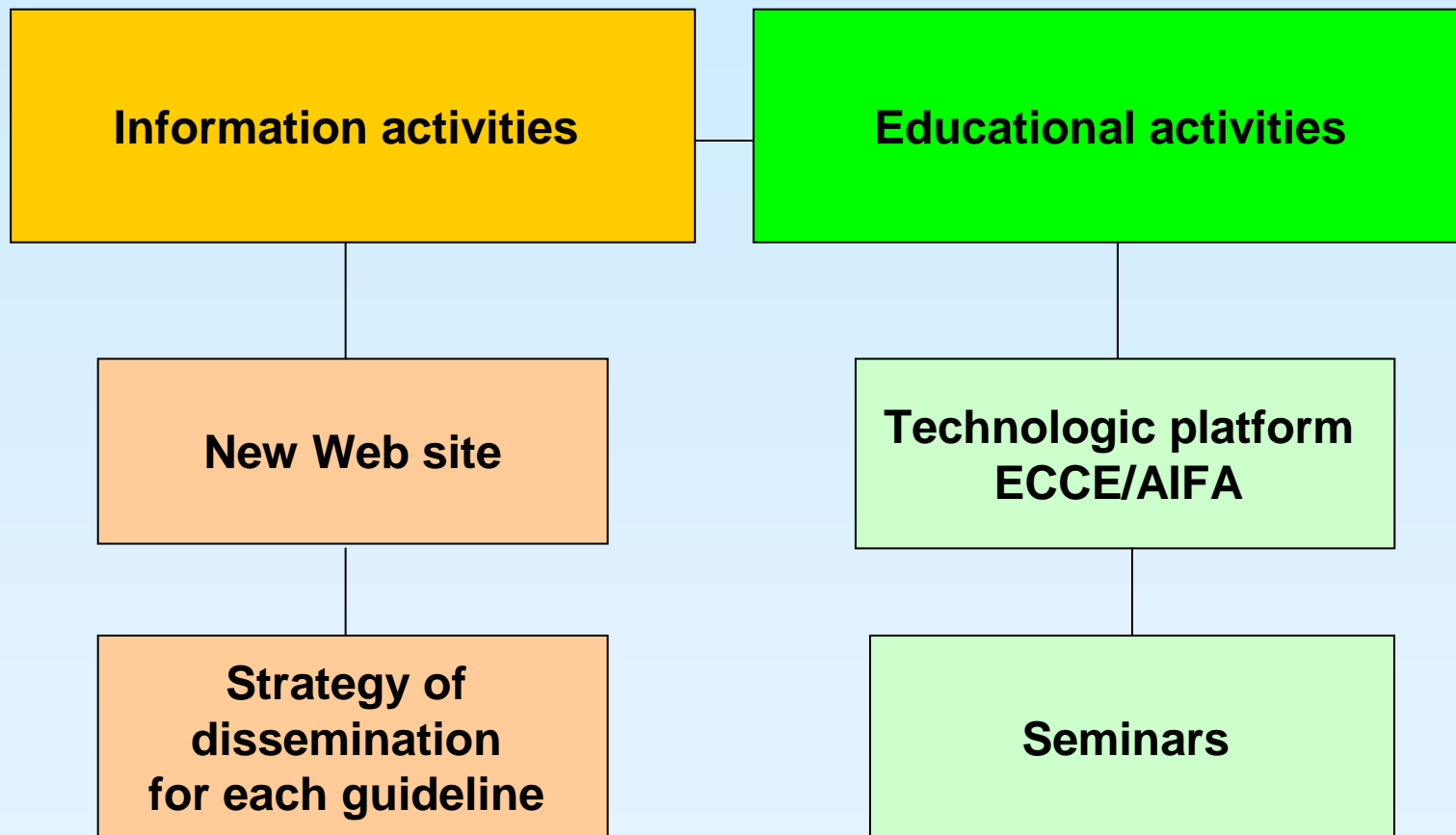
# Implementation

In the framework of the Ministero della Salute – Istituto Superiore di Sanità agreement, the need of planning implementation strategies at a local level has been carefully considered

**But an effective implementations strategy needs the close cooperation between regional and local parts of the NHS supported by the central government**

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# Implementation



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## Implementation

- Building evaluation activities is a further feature of implementation strategy. The impact of the interventions may be evaluated *ex ante* and *ex post* using indicators.
  - Note that to this scope the SNLG guidelines provide a list of indicators with related data sources.
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## Coming soon...

- GRADE will be adopted
  - Greater attention will be paid to the point of view of the citizens, whose involvement will be real and present in each phase of guidelines development .
  - A citizens version of each guideline produced will be presented
  - Development of other kind of SNLG guidance such as effectiveness of new drugs/ medical devices ...
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Grazie per  
l'attenzione

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