

**Association of University Cardiologists**

January 19-21, 2022

Belmond Charleston Place

Charleston, SC

Title: Standards for clinical practice guidelines

Clinical practice guidelines are documents intending to establish standards of care supported by scientific evidence. Recommendations within guidelines are informed by an evidence review and an assessment of the benefits and harms of alternative care options. Guideline development is fraught with challenge, yet there is widespread general agreement regarding basic elements of methodology. In 2011, the IOM's *Clinical Practice Guidelines We Can Trust*, proposed 8 standards for developing high-quality, methodologically rigorous documents, designed to reliably translate complex scientific research into practical, relevant, and individualizable recommendations for patient care. These standards emphasize transparency of the development process and funding, management of conflict of interest, assembling a multidisciplinary and balanced writing group, using quality systematic reviews, establishing the evidence base and rating the strength of recommendation, communicating recommendations, external review, and updating. Despite this and other similar published standards, there is no universally accepted method for guideline development. Multiple instruments to evaluate guideline quality have likewise been developed, and similar to published standards, different tools share many commonalities. The AGREE II tool, one of the most frequently used, measures 6 domains: explicit scope and purpose, stakeholder involvement, rigor of development, clarity of presentation, applicability, and editorial independence. Neither standards, nor quality evaluation tools, offer guidance to developers in constructing the detailed processes necessary to successful document creation. In this session, we will discuss focused areas of guideline development, including constructing the writing committee, managing relationships with industry, and evaluating the evidence to enable assessment of the strengths and limitations of current standards.

- 1) Please identify members by underlining their name.
- 2) Please use box above, Abstract (with spaces) = 500 Word limit
- 3) Talk duration 15 min, questions 10 min (total time 25 min)



---

Member's Signature