

Appendix 1. GRADE Evidence to Decision Framework template

## Assessment

	JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
PROBLEM	<p><b>Is the problem a priority?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No</li> <li>○ Probably no</li> <li>○ Probably yes</li> <li>○ Yes</li> <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
DESIRABLE EFFECTS	<p><b>How substantial are the desirable anticipated effects?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trivial</li> <li>○ Small</li> <li>○ Moderate</li> <li>○ Large</li> <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS	<p><b>How substantial are the undesirable anticipated effects?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Large</li> <li>○ Moderate</li> <li>○ Small</li> <li>○ Trivial</li> <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
CERTAINTY OF EVIDENCE	<p><b>What is the overall certainty of the evidence of effects?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Very low</li> <li>○ Low</li> <li>○ Moderate</li> <li>○ High</li> <li>○ No included studies</li> </ul>		
VALUES	<p><b>Is there important uncertainty about or variability in how much people value the main outcomes?</b></p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Important uncertainty or variability</li> <li>○ Possibly important uncertainty or variability</li> <li>○ Probably no important uncertainty or variability</li> <li>○ No important uncertainty or variability</li> </ul>		
BALANCE OF EFFECTS	<p><b>Does the balance between desirable and undesirable effects favor the intervention or the comparison?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Favors the comparison</li> <li>○ Probably favors the comparison</li> <li>○ Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison</li> <li>○ Probably favors the intervention</li> <li>○ Favors the intervention</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
RESOURCES REQUIRED	<p><b>How large are the resource requirements (costs)?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Large costs</li> <li>○ Moderate costs</li> <li>○ Negligible costs and savings</li> <li>○ Moderate savings</li> <li>○ Large savings</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
CERTAINTY OF EVIDENCE OF REQUIRED RESOURCES	<p><b>What is the certainty of the evidence of resource requirements (costs)?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Very low</li> <li>○ Low</li> <li>○ Moderate</li> <li>○ High</li>   <li>○ No included studies</li> </ul>		

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">COST EFFECTIVENESS</p>	<p><b>Does the cost-effectiveness of the intervention favor the intervention or the comparison?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Favors the comparison</li> <li>○ Probably favors the comparison</li> <li>○ Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison</li> <li>○ Probably favors the intervention</li> <li>○ Favors the intervention</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ No included studies</li> </ul>		
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">EQUITY</p>	<p><b>What would be the impact on health equity?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduced</li> <li>○ Probably reduced</li> <li>○ Probably no impact</li> <li>○ Probably increased</li> <li>○ Increased</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">ACCEPTABILITY</p>	<p><b>Is the intervention acceptable to key stakeholders?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No</li> <li>○ Probably no</li> <li>○ Probably yes</li> <li>○ Yes</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">FEASIBILITY</p>	<p><b>Is the intervention feasible to implement?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No</li> <li>○ Probably no</li> <li>○ Probably yes</li> <li>○ Yes</li>   <li>○ Varies</li> <li>○ Don't know</li> </ul>		



## Appendix



### **Informed Consent to Participate in Research**

Information to Consider Before Taking Part in this Research Study

**Pro # 00027571**

Researchers at the University of South Florida (USF) study many topics. To do this, we need the help of people who agree to take part in a research study. This form tells you about this research study. We are asking you to take part in a research study that is called: Evaluation of the Group Decision-making Process of Clinical Guidelines Panels. The person who is in charge of this research study is Dr. Benjamin Djulbegovic. This person is called the Principal Investigator.

This study is sponsored by: Agency for Healthcare Research (AHRQ)

#### **Purpose of the Study**

GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation) is accepted by more than 100 professional organizations that generate clinical practice guidelines. However, development of guidelines ultimately relies on the group judgment of the panel. Despite the importance of group judgments for issuing guidelines, little work has been done to analyze how this process takes place.

The purpose of this study is to assess how group judgment process reflects the relationship between GRADE and other contextual factors including individual panel member expertise, decision-making styles, etc related to the direction and the strength of recommendations of the guidelines.

#### **Why are you being asked to take part?**

We are asking you to take part in this research study because you are a member of a panel for developing clinical guidelines.

#### **Study Procedures**

If you take part in this study, you will be asked to complete a couple of surveys in addition to your participation on the guideline development panel. By participating in your Clinical Practice Guidelines panel, you have already agreed to deliberate and issue your recommendations regardless of the proposed study. For this study we ask you to help us formally analyze this process – by completion of the series of questionnaires- prior and during/post meeting- and consenting to recording the panel session discussion.

At the beginning of the survey you will be asked to provide some brief demographic information (your area of specialty, years in practice, your age and your gender, etc). This will be followed by survey related to your decision-making styles. This is estimated to take about 15 minutes.

The next part of the study will relate to your judgments regarding the formulation of guidelines recommendation as per GRADE process. You will be asked to evaluate the presented evidence and make your recommendation for or against the use of the intervention. This is expected to last about 15-20 minutes.

Following the survey, you will meet with your guideline panel, where you will deliberate with other panel members as instructed by your Chair. As per CPG development process, you will be asked to cast your vote either at the end of the meeting, or one week post meeting (depending on your panel). One week after the meeting, we will send you a short follow-up survey (which is expected to take less than 5 minutes of your time) asking you for your overall impression of the guidelines development process.

We will record discussion that occurs during the meeting, which we will then subject to qualitative analysis to identify any new themes of importance for guidelines development that may have not been previously included in the GRADE system. Although by agreeing to participate in the panel, you expressed your willingness to voice your opinion to help improve CPG process, we will deidentify all data prior to analysis. Therefore, there is no way that any particular opinion will be linked back to any individual participant.

Please note that once you complete all answers, the random code will be generated related to your participation and all your identifying information will be erased. Hence, no one will be able to link your answers to you. That is, the surveys will remain anonymous.

### **Alternatives / Voluntary Participation / Withdrawal**

You have the alternative to choose not to participate in this research study.

You should only take part in this study if you want to volunteer; you are free to participate in this research or withdraw at any time. There will be no penalty or loss of benefits you are entitled to receive if you stop taking part in this study. Your decision to not partake in this study will not affect your participation as a member of the CPG panel.

### **Benefits and Risks**

You will receive no benefit from this study.

This research is considered to be minimal risk.

### **Compensation**

We will not pay you for the time you volunteer while being in this study.

### **Privacy and Confidentiality**

We must keep your study records as confidential as possible. It is possible, although unlikely, that unauthorized individuals could gain access to your responses because you are responding online.

Certain people may need to see your study records. By law, anyone who looks at your records must keep them completely confidential. The only people who will be allowed to see these records are: the Principal Investigator and research team data analyst, The University of South Florida Institutional Review Board (IRB) and government offices such as, The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

- It is possible, although unlikely, that unauthorized individuals could gain access to your responses. Confidentiality will be maintained to the degree permitted by the technology used. No guarantees can be made regarding the interception of data sent via the Internet. However, your participation in this online survey involves risks similar to a person's everyday use of the Internet. If you complete and submit an anonymous survey and later request your data be withdrawn, this may or may not be possible as the researcher may be unable to extract anonymous data from the database.

## **Contact Information**

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the USF IRB at (813) 974-5638 or contact by email at [RSCH-IRB@usf.edu](mailto:RSCH-IRB@usf.edu). If you have questions regarding the research, please contact the Principal Investigator at Dr. Benjamin Djulbegovic at USF Health, phone: (813) 396-2349, email: [bdjulbeg@health.usf.edu](mailto:bdjulbeg@health.usf.edu).

We may publish what we learn from this study. If we do, we will not let anyone know your name. We will not publish anything else that would let people know who you are. You can print a copy of this consent form for your records.

I freely give my consent to take part in this study. I understand that by proceeding with this survey that I am agreeing to take part in research and I am 18 years of age or older.

[ <https://usf.qualtrics.com> ]

**A) Part I: Baseline survey to be administered to all participants before the guideline panel meets**

Thank you for choosing to participate in our study. Below is a baseline survey that includes several demographic questions, a set of standard scales that have been validated in prior studies used to evaluate decision making style<sup>1-8</sup>, a GRADE evaluation tool, and your recommendations. The survey is expected to take approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

**Demographics**

What is your primary role on the current panel *(please select only one)*

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Prior to this panel, have you previously participated in the development of guidelines?

- Yes  No

If you answered 'yes', how many guidelines have you participated in:

In what capacity did you participate in previous guidelines? *(please select all that apply)*

Panel member

Methodologist

Panel Chair

Other:

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What is your formal education (e.g. MD, RN, MSc, MPH, PhD, etc.)?

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Do you have formal training in health research methodology/epidemiology/biostatistics?

- Never completed formal training  
 Completed some formal training but do not have graduate degree  
 Earned MSc degree  
 Earned PhD degree

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Indicate your field of work *(please select only one)*

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Please specify 'other' areas of expertise:



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How many years of experience do you have in your field?

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If you are a clinical expert, compared to other people you know in your field, how would you rate your level of expertise regarding the recommendations you are most knowledgeable about?

- Higher than others
- About the same as others
- Lower than others

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If you are a clinical expert, how many patients do you see per month that match the population affected by the guideline you have the most expertise in?

- None
- 1 to 5
- 6 to 10
- 11 to 15
- More than 15

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What is your age?

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What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

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Do you have any financial conflict of interest with respect to the guideline recommendations?

- Yes  No

If you answered 'yes', please briefly explain below:

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Do you have any intellectual conflict of interest with respect to the guideline recommendations?

- Yes  No

If you answered 'yes', please briefly explain below:

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Do you have any institutional conflict of interest with respect to the guideline recommendations?

- Yes  No

If you answered 'yes', please briefly explain below:

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Do you believe that these guidelines have particular social implications which may affect one or more vulnerable populations [e.g. women, children, racial and ethnic minorities, populations with special health care needs (chronic illness, disabilities, and end of life), the elderly, low-income, inner-city, and rural populations]?

- Yes  No

If you answered 'yes', please briefly explain below:

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Do you feel that you are expected to conform or inappropriately pressured to vote (issue recommendation) in a particular way?

Yes

No

If you answered 'yes', please indicate where the pressure is coming from:

Peers

Politicians

Regulators

Government

Insurance

Society at large

Other, please briefly explain:

## Assessment of individual differences (or, traits) in decision-making

All scales and items within scales will be randomly presented to control for order effects.

**Objectivism Scale.** <sup>4</sup> (*The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.*)

Below are several statements that describe how various people make decisions in general. Read each statement carefully and think about the extent to which the statement describes you. Use the following rating scale to indicate your responses.

0	1	2	3	4
Not at all characteristic of me	Slightly characteristic of me	Moderately characteristic of me	Very characteristic of me	Extremely characteristic of me

1. \_\_\_\_ I seek as much information as possible before making decisions.
2. \_\_\_\_ I think the answers to most questions in life can be found through careful, objective analysis of the situation.
3. \_\_\_\_ I do not like to be too objective in the way I look at things.
4. \_\_\_\_ Trying to be highly objective and rational does not improve my ability to make good decisions.
5. \_\_\_\_ I see myself as a rational and objective person.
6. \_\_\_\_ After I make a decision, it is often difficult for me to give logical reasons for it.
7. \_\_\_\_ I gather as much information as possible before making decisions.
8. \_\_\_\_ The solution to many problems in life can not be found through an intellectual examination of the facts.
9. \_\_\_\_ I try to employ a cool-headed, objective approach when making decisions about my life.
10. \_\_\_\_ I am only confident of decisions that are made after careful analysis of all available information.
11. \_\_\_\_ I tend not to be particularly objective or logical in my approach to life.

**Rational-Experiential Inventory.** <sup>5</sup> (*The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.*)

Below are several statements that describe how various people make decisions in general. Read each statement carefully and think about the extent to which the statement describes you. Use the following rating scale to indicate your responses.

0	1	2	3	4
Not at all characteristic of me	Slightly characteristic of me	Moderately characteristic of me	Very characteristic of me	Extremely characteristic of me

1. \_\_\_\_ I would not want to depend on anyone who described himself or herself as intuitive.
2. \_\_\_\_ My snap judgments are probably not as good as most people's.
3. \_\_\_\_ I tend to use my heart as a guide for my actions.
4. \_\_\_\_ I can usually feel when a person is right or wrong, even if I can't explain how I know.
5. \_\_\_\_ I suspect my hunches are inaccurate as often as they are accurate.
6. \_\_\_\_ I try to avoid situations that require thinking in depth about something.
7. \_\_\_\_ I'm not that good at figuring out complicated problems.
8. \_\_\_\_ When it comes to trusting people, I can usually rely on my gut feelings.
9. \_\_\_\_ I enjoy intellectual challenges.
10. \_\_\_\_ I am not very good at solving problems that require careful logical analysis.
11. \_\_\_\_ I don't like to have to do a lot of thinking.
12. \_\_\_\_ I often go by my instincts when deciding on a course of action.
13. \_\_\_\_ I trust my initial feelings about people.
14. \_\_\_\_ If I were to rely on my gut feelings, I would often make mistakes.
15. \_\_\_\_ I don't like situations in which I have to rely on intuition.
16. \_\_\_\_ Knowing the answer without having to understand the reasoning behind it is good enough for me.
17. \_\_\_\_ I don't reason well under pressure.
18. \_\_\_\_ I am much better at figuring things out logically than most people.
19. \_\_\_\_ I have a logical mind.
20. \_\_\_\_ I enjoy thinking in abstract terms.
21. \_\_\_\_ Thinking hard and for a long time about something gives me little satisfaction.
22. \_\_\_\_ I think there are times when one should rely on one's intuition.
23. \_\_\_\_ I think it is foolish to make important decisions based on feelings.

**Rational-Experiential Inventory (continued).** (*The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.*)

0	1	2	3	4
Not at all characteristic of me	Lightly characteristic of me	Moderately characteristic of me	Very characteristic of me	Extremely characteristic of me

24. \_\_\_\_\_ I don't think it is a good idea to rely on one's intuition for important decisions.
25. \_\_\_\_\_ I generally don't depend on my feelings to help me make decisions.
26. \_\_\_\_\_ I hardly ever go wrong when I listen to my deepest gut feelings to find an answer.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ I have no problem thinking things through carefully.
28. \_\_\_\_\_ Using logic usually works well for me in figuring out problems in my life.
29. \_\_\_\_\_ I usually have clear, explainable reasons for my decisions.
30. \_\_\_\_\_ Learning new ways to think would be very appealing to me.
31. \_\_\_\_\_ I like to rely on my intuitive impressions.
32. \_\_\_\_\_ I don't have a very good sense of intuition.
33. \_\_\_\_\_ Using my gut feelings usually works well for me in figuring out problems in my life.
34. \_\_\_\_\_ I believe in trusting my hunches.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ Intuition can be a very useful way to solve problems.
36. \_\_\_\_\_ I enjoy solving problems that require hard thinking.
37. \_\_\_\_\_ Thinking is not my idea of an enjoyable activity.
38. \_\_\_\_\_ I am not a very analytical thinker.
39. \_\_\_\_\_ Reasoning things out carefully is not one of my strong points.
40. \_\_\_\_\_ I prefer complex problems to simple problems.

**Intolerance for Ambiguity Scale.** <sup>2</sup> (*The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.*)

Below are several general statements regarding how people perceive and think about the world around them. Please read each statement carefully. Indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement using the following rating scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree

1. \_\_\_\_\_ An expert who doesn't come up with a definite answer probably doesn't know very much.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Teachers or supervisors who hand out vague assignments give a chance for one to show initiative and originality.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ People who fit their lives to a schedule probably miss most of the joy of living.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Often the most interesting and stimulating people are those who don't mind being different and original.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ It is more fun to tackle a complicated problem than to solve a simple one.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ In the long run it is possible to get more done by tackling small, simple problems rather than large and complicated ones.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A good job is one where what is to be done and how it is to be done are always clear.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ A person who leads an even, regular life in which few surprises or unexpected happenings arise, really has a lot to be grateful for.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ What we are used to is always preferable to what is unfamiliar to us.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ People who insist upon a "yes" or "no" answer just don't know how complicated things really are.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ There is really no such thing as a problem that can't be solved.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Many of our most important decisions are based upon insufficient information.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ I like parties where I know most of the people more than ones where all or most of the people are complete strangers.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to live in a foreign country for a while.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ The sooner we all acquire similar values and ideals the better.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ A good teacher is one who makes you wonder about your own way of looking at things.

**Decision Making Tendency Inventory<sup>9</sup>** *(The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.)*

Below are several statements that describe how various people make decisions in general. Read each statement carefully and think about the extent to which the statement describes you. Use the following rating scale to indicate your responses.

0	1	2	3	4
Not at all characteristic of me	Slightly characteristic of me	Moderately characteristic of me	Very characteristic of me	Extremely characteristic of me

**Satisficing**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ In every area, I try to achieve results that are satisfactory for me
2. \_\_\_\_\_ In studying or working, I tend to choose solutions that guarantee satisfactory results for me
3. \_\_\_\_\_ When I make decisions, I spend the time required to choose an alternative that is satisfactory for me
4. \_\_\_\_\_ In studying or working, I spend the time required to choose solutions that meet my needs
5. \_\_\_\_\_ If I am happy with my work, I do not seek better opportunities
6. \_\_\_\_\_ In choosing between alternatives, I stop at the first that works for me
7. \_\_\_\_\_ I do not ask for more than what satisfies me
8. \_\_\_\_\_ When I watch TV or listen to the radio, I tend to follow the first program that I find interesting



**Maximizing Tendency Inventory<sup>10</sup>** *(The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.)*

Below are several statements that describe how various people make decisions in general. Read each statement carefully and think about the extent to which the statement describes you. Use the following rating scale to indicate your responses.

0	1	2	3	4
Not at all characteristic of me	Slightly characteristic of me	Moderately characteristic of me	Very characteristic of me	Extremely characteristic of me

1. \_\_\_\_\_ No matter what I do, I have the highest standards for myself.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I never settle for second best.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ No matter what it takes, I always try to choose the best thing.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I don't like having to settle for "good enough."
5. \_\_\_\_\_ I am a maximizer.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I will wait for the best option, no matter how long it takes.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ I never settle.

**Maximization Inventory<sup>11</sup>** *(The scale is identified here for the reviewers' convenience. This label will not be presented to participants.)*

Below are several statements describing how people think and feel about decision making. Please read each statement carefully. Indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement using the following rating scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree

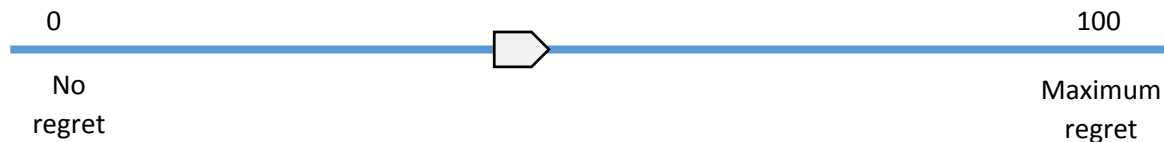
1. \_\_\_\_ I usually try to find a couple of good options and then choose between them.
2. \_\_\_\_ I usually have a hard time making even simple decisions.
3. \_\_\_\_ I can't come to a decision unless I have carefully considered all of my options.
4. \_\_\_\_ At some point you need to make a decision about things.
5. \_\_\_\_ I am usually worried about making a wrong decision.
6. \_\_\_\_ I take time to read the whole menu when dining out.
7. \_\_\_\_ In life I try to make the most of whatever path I take.
8. \_\_\_\_ I often wonder why decisions can't be more easy.
9. \_\_\_\_ I will continue shopping for an item until it reaches all of my criteria.
10. \_\_\_\_ There are usually several good options in a decision situation.
11. \_\_\_\_ I often put off making a difficult decision until a deadline.
12. \_\_\_\_ I usually continue to search for an item until it reaches my expectations.
13. \_\_\_\_ I try to gain plenty of information before I make a decision, but then I go ahead and make it.
14. \_\_\_\_ I often experience buyer's remorse.
15. \_\_\_\_ When shopping, I plan on spending a lot of time looking for something.
16. \_\_\_\_ Good things can happen even when things don't go right at first.
17. \_\_\_\_ I often think about changing my mind after I have already made my decision.
18. \_\_\_\_ When shopping, if I can't find exactly what I'm looking for, I will continue to search for it.

19. \_\_\_\_ I can't possibly know everything before making a decision.
20. \_\_\_\_ The hardest part of making a decision is knowing I will have to leave the item I didn't choose behind.
21. \_\_\_\_ I find myself going to many different stores before finding the thing I want.
22. \_\_\_\_ I do not agonize over decisions.
23. \_\_\_\_ I just won't make a decision until I am comfortable with the process.
24. \_\_\_\_ All decisions have pros and cons.
25. \_\_\_\_ I often change my mind several times before making a decision.
26. \_\_\_\_ When shopping for something, I don't mind spending several hours looking for it.
27. \_\_\_\_ I know that if I make a mistake in a decision that I can go "back to the drawing board."
28. \_\_\_\_ It's hard for me to choose between two good alternatives.
29. \_\_\_\_ I take the time to consider all alternatives before making a decision.
30. \_\_\_\_ I accept that life often has uncertainty.
31. \_\_\_\_ Sometimes I procrastinate in deciding even if I have a good idea of what decision I will make.
32. \_\_\_\_ When I see something that I want, I always try to find the best deal before purchasing it.
33. \_\_\_\_ I find myself often faced with difficult decisions.
34. \_\_\_\_ If a store doesn't have exactly what I'm shopping for, then I will go somewhere else.

### Anticipated Regret Scale <sup>3,6,7</sup>

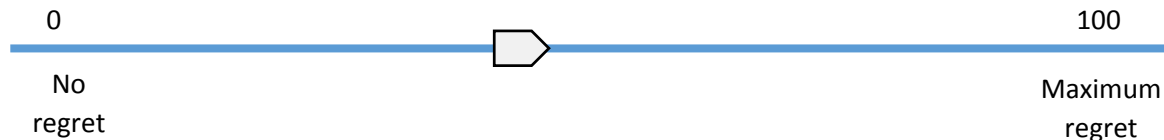
Read each statement below carefully and think about the extent to which the statement describes your attitude. Use the scale below to indicate your responses or enter a number from 0 (no regret) to 100 (maximum regret).

When you cast your "vote" as a **STRONG** recommendation **FOR** a health intervention how much regret would you feel if it turned out to be unnecessary and possibly harmful (**which will lead to more undesirable than desirable consequences**)?



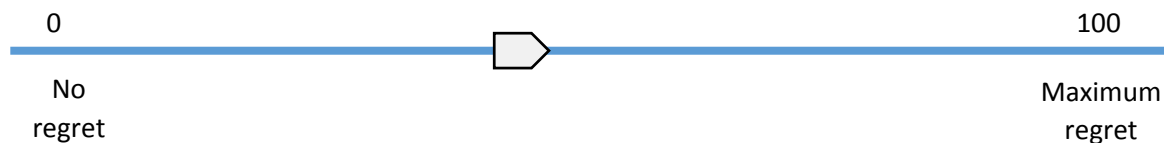
Enter your level of regret:

When you cast your "vote" as a **STRONG** recommendation **AGAINST** a health intervention how much regret would you feel if you failed to recommend a health intervention that could improve patient outcomes (**which will fail to lead to more desirable than undesirable consequences**)?



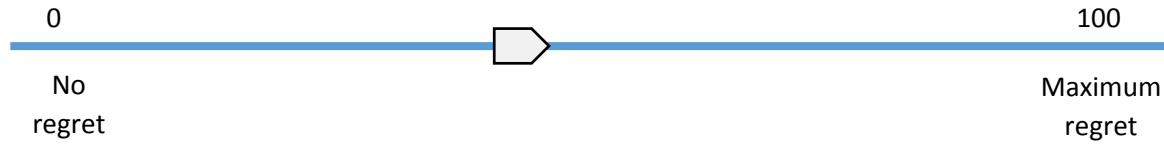
Enter your level of regret:

When you cast your "vote" as a **WEAK** recommendation **FOR** a health intervention how much regret would you feel if it turn out to be unnecessary and possibly harmful (**which will lead to more undesirable than desirable consequences**)?



Enter your level of regret:

When you cast your "vote" as the WEAK recommendation AGAINST a health intervention how much regret would you feel if you failed to recommend a health intervention that could improve patient outcomes (**which will fail to lead to more desirable than undesirable consequences**)?



Enter your level of regret:

**A) Part II: GRADE data presentation (BEFORE the panel meeting)**

You are about to be asked to make a recommendation for or against the use of intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_. Before making your recommendation please review the summary assessment of key GRADE domains already provided for you. If you disagree with any domain summary, please indicate your opinion below each statement.

- 1) Is the problem a priority?**
- No
  - Probably no
  - Probably yes
  - Yes
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of problem priority:

- 2) How substantial are the desirable anticipated effects?**
- Trivial
  - Small
  - Moderate
  - Large
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of desirable anticipated effects:

- 3) How substantial are the undesirable anticipated effects?**
- Large
  - Moderate
  - Small
  - Trivial
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of undesirable anticipated effects:

- Very low

**4) What is the overall certainty (quality) of the evidence of effects?**

- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of certainty (quality) of the evidence of effects:

**5) Is there important uncertainty about or variability in how much people value the main outcomes?**

- Important uncertainty or variability
- Possibly important uncertainty or variability
- Probably no important uncertainty or variability
- No important uncertainty or variability

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of how much people value the main outcomes:

**6) Does the balance between desirable and undesirable effects favor the intervention or the comparison?**

- Favors the comparison
- Probably favors the comparison
- Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison
- Probably favors the intervention
- Favors the intervention
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of balance between desirable and undesirable effects:

**7) How large are the resource requirements (costs)?**

- Large costs
- Moderate costs
- Negligible costs and savings
- Moderate savings

- Large savings
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the resource requirements (costs):

- 8) What would be the impact on health equity?**
- Reduced
  - Probably reduced
  - Probably no impact
  - Probably increased
  - Increased
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the impact on health equity:

- 9) Is the intervention acceptable to key stakeholders?**
- No
  - Probably no
  - Probably yes
  - Yes
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the intervention's acceptability to stakeholders:



**10) Is the intervention  
feasible to implement?**

- No
- Probably no
- Probably yes
- Yes
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of feasibility of the intervention's implementation:

## Recommendation vote

Please indicate your recommendation related to the use of intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.

- I STRONGLY recommend FOR using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
  - I WEAKLY recommend FOR using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
  - I WEAKLY recommend AGAINST using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
  - I STRONGLY recommend AGAINST intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
- 

B) Participants of guideline **panels meet** to discuss recommendations. The deliberations are recorded. [Details related to specific guideline recommendations will also be recorded in the PICO (patients, interventions, comparators, outcomes) format]. <sup>1</sup>Immediately **during, or within a week following the guideline panel meeting**, the participants are asked to complete the following survey.

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<sup>1</sup> This will be panel dependent; some panels will use GDP software, so all “votes” will be recorded **during** the meeting.

**GRADE data presentation (DURING/AFTER the panel meeting)**

You are about to be asked to make a recommendation for or against the use of intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_. Before making your recommendation please review the summary assessment of key GRADE domains already provided for you. If you disagree with any domain summary, please indicate your opinion below each statement.

- 1) Is the problem a priority?**
- No
  - Probably no
  - Probably yes
  - Yes
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of problem priority:

- 2) How substantial are the desirable anticipated effects?**
- Trivial
  - Small
  - Moderate
  - Large
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of desirable anticipated effects:

- 3) How substantial are the undesirable anticipated effects?**
- Large
  - Moderate
  - Small
  - Trivial
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of undesirable anticipated effects:

- Very low

- 4) What is the overall certainty (quality) of the evidence of effects?**
- Low
  - Moderate
  - High
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of certainty (quality) of the evidence of effects:

- 5) Is there important uncertainty about or variability in how much people value the main outcomes?**
- Important uncertainty or variability
  - Possibly important uncertainty or variability
  - Probably no important uncertainty or variability
  - No important uncertainty or variability

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of how much people value the main outcomes:

- 6) Does the balance between desirable and undesirable effects favor the intervention or the comparison?**
- Favors the comparison
  - Probably favors the comparison
  - Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison
  - Probably favors the intervention
  - Favors the intervention
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of balance between desirable and undesirable effects:

- 7) How large are the resource requirements (costs)?**
- Large costs
  - Moderate costs
  - Negligible costs and savings
  - Moderate savings

- Large savings
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the resource requirements (costs):

- 8) What would be the impact on health equity?**
- Reduced
  - Probably reduced
  - Probably no impact
  - Probably increased
  - Increased
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the impact on health equity:

- 9) Is the intervention acceptable to key stakeholders?**
- No
  - Probably no
  - Probably yes
  - Yes
  - Varies
  - Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of the intervention's acceptability to stakeholders:

- No

**10) Is the intervention  
feasible to implement?**

- Probably no
- Probably yes
- Yes
- Varies
- Don't know

If you disagree with the assessment above, please indicate your perceived assessment of feasibility of the intervention's implementation:

### Recommendation vote

Please indicate your recommendation related to the use of intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.

- I STRONGLY recommend FOR using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
- I WEAKLY recommend FOR using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
- I WEAKLY recommend AGAINST using intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.
- I STRONGLY recommend AGAINST intervention \_\_\_\_\_ for condition \_\_\_\_\_.

**C) Follow-up survey to be administered to all participants within 1 week of guideline panel meeting**

Thank you for participating in our study. Below is a brief follow-up related to your participation in development of clinical practice guidelines and an assessment of how you feel about your decision. The survey is expected to take less than 5 minutes to complete but you can take as long as you wish to answer questions the asked in the survey.

**Post Decisional Regret Scale**

**1. Brehaut scale <sup>1</sup>**

Please reflect on the final vote that your panel made for **all recommendations** for or against a health intervention. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the statements below with respect to majority (>80%) of your recommendations by using the following rating scale:

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree

1. \_\_\_\_ It was the right decision (recommendation).
2. \_\_\_\_ I regret the choices (recommendations) that were made.
3. \_\_\_\_ I would go (vote) for the same choices (recommendations) if I had to do it over again.
4. \_\_\_\_ The choices (recommendations) will do a lot of harm.
5. \_\_\_\_ The decisions (recommendations) were wise.

If you believe that you should have made some recommendations differently, please briefly explain below:

**2. Do you feel that you were expected to conform or were inappropriately pressured to vote (issue recommendation) in a particular way?**

- Yes                       No

If you answered 'yes', please indicate where the pressure came from:

- Peers
- Politicians
- Regulators
- Government
- Insurance
- Society at large

Other, please briefly explain:





**3. Did you feel that discussion/beliefs of a single individual had disproportionate influence on the guidelines development process?**

- Yes**                       **No**

If you answered 'yes', please briefly explain below:

**4. Your overall comments**

Please provide us with any other thoughts you have related to the guidelines recommendations process in which you participated. We would appreciate receiving both "positive" and "negative" comments.

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**D) Closing questions to be completed by the guideline chair after peer review process is completed**

**1. Have guideline recommendations changed as a result of the peer-review process?**

- Yes**                       **No**

If you answered 'yes', please indicate how many recommendations changed and comment on what changes occurred (e.g. the quality of evidence was reassessed, the strength of recommendation was modified, etc.)

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