Implications for Guideline Developers/Users

The updated guideline on the management of patients with bipolar disorder provides evidence-based recommendations that can be adopted by healthcare providers in clinical practice. The guideline emphasizes the importance of using evidence from previous guidelines and expert opinion to develop new guidelines. The guideline recommends using a complex guideline, incorporating evidence from previous guidelines and expert opinion. The method was well accepted and followed by the panel and improved the elaboration of recommendations.

### Abstracts

**P283**

**DEVELOPMENT OF A CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE ON INTRAVENOUS THERAPY USING GRADE: INTEGRATING AVAILABLE EVIDENCE AND EXPERT OPINION**


**Background**

Intravenous therapy is one of the most frequently used interventions in health care, with increasing complexity and duration of treatments. A clinical practice guideline (CPG) on this topic was developed within the framework of the Spanish programme (National Health System) aimed to provide recommendations on intravenous therapy best practice.

**Objective**

To describe CPG development process, considering methodological issues, such as updating and adapting existing guidelines and expert inputs.

**Methods**

Using the GRADE approach, an evidence synthesis was developed for each clinical question, including adoption or update of valid recommendations from selected guidelines. Expert panel followed methodology proposed by Jaescke et al with predefined consensus criteria to categorise recommendations.

**Results**

After assessment with AGREE II instrument, 3 guidelines were considered highly recommended and selected for adaptation/updating. Evidence synthesis and recommendations for each 63 initial clinical question were drafted and sent to the expert panel who voted individually. Areas of disagreement were identified and discussed in a face-to-face meeting. After the second voting round 55 recommendations remained, of which 27 were rated as strong, 12 as weak and 14 as good practice recommendations. Six of them were adopted/updated from previous guidelines. In 2 cases there was no agreement in the panel and no recommendation was issued.

**Discussion**

GRADE proved to be a useful method to develop a complex guideline, incorporating evidence from previous guidelines and expert opinion. The method was well accepted and followed by the panel and improved the elaboration of recommendations.