

Can guidelines influence practice?

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Transparency declaration

- I have received research grants from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF)
- I am a paid consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO)

Disclaimer



Antibiotika-»Guideline Digests« der Schweizerischen Gesellschaft für Infektiologie (SSI)

Entwicklung infektiologischer Guidelines – ein kontinuierlicher Prozess

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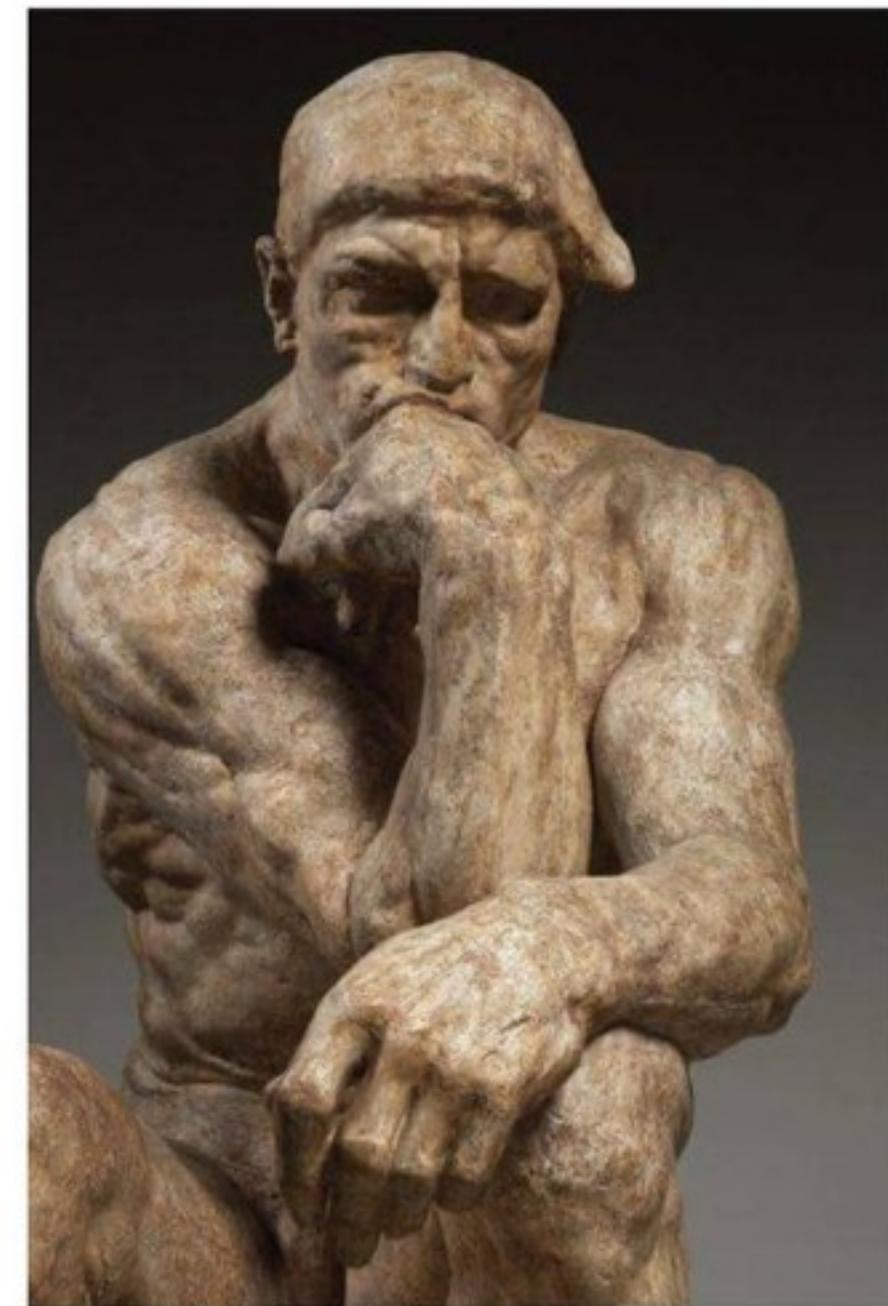
**SSI Guideline
Subcommittee**

Some terminology issues “guideline ≠ guideline”

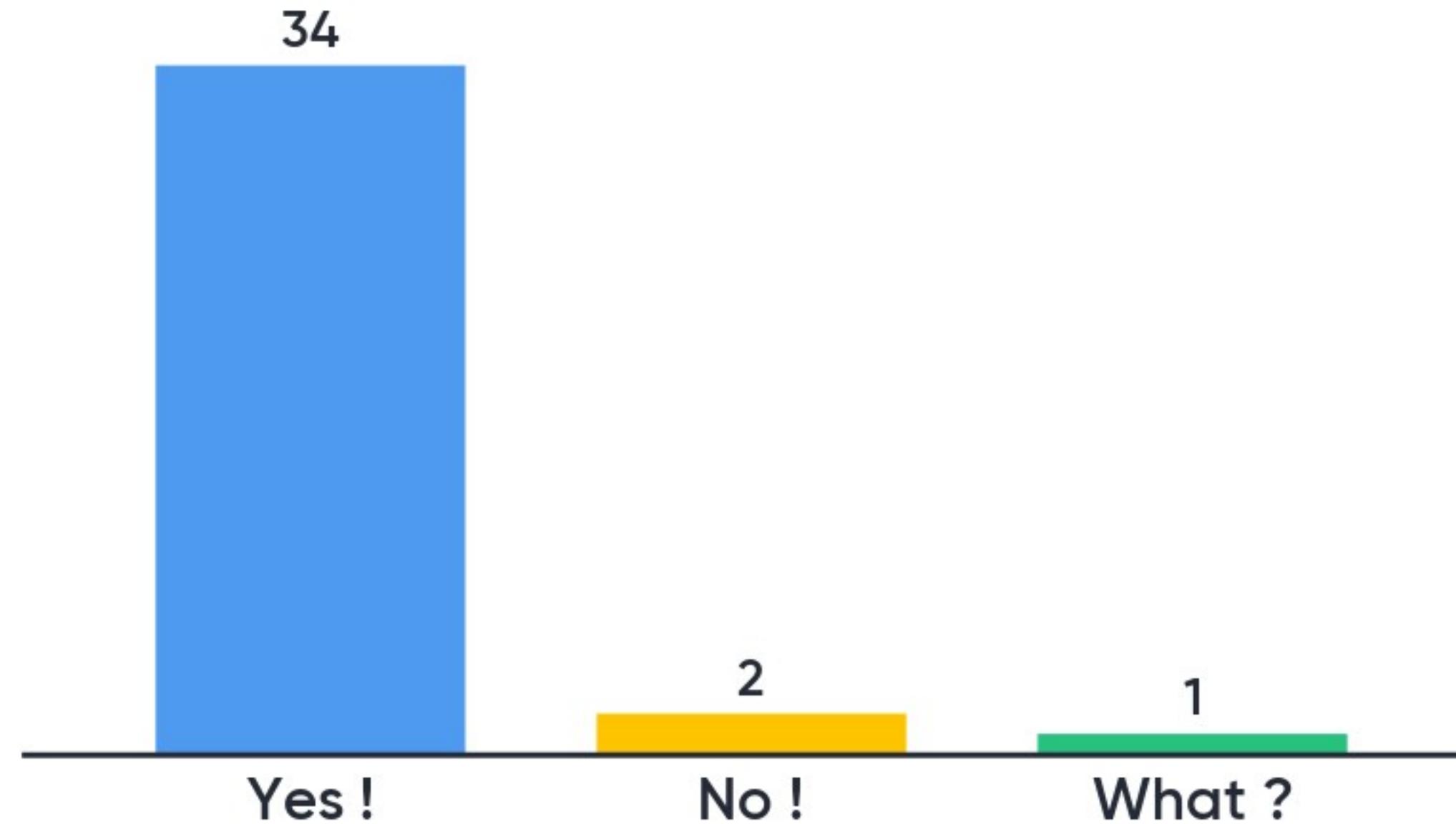
- **Guidance document**
 - “any document aimed at giving advice” [in the field on infectious diseases, clinical microbiology and infection control]
- **Clinical Practice Guidelines**
 - a guidance document fulfilling **more rigorous criteria**
 - “statements ... that include recommendations intended to optimize patient care that are **informed by a systematic review of evidence** and an **assessment of the benefits and harms** of alternative care options”

Some reflections

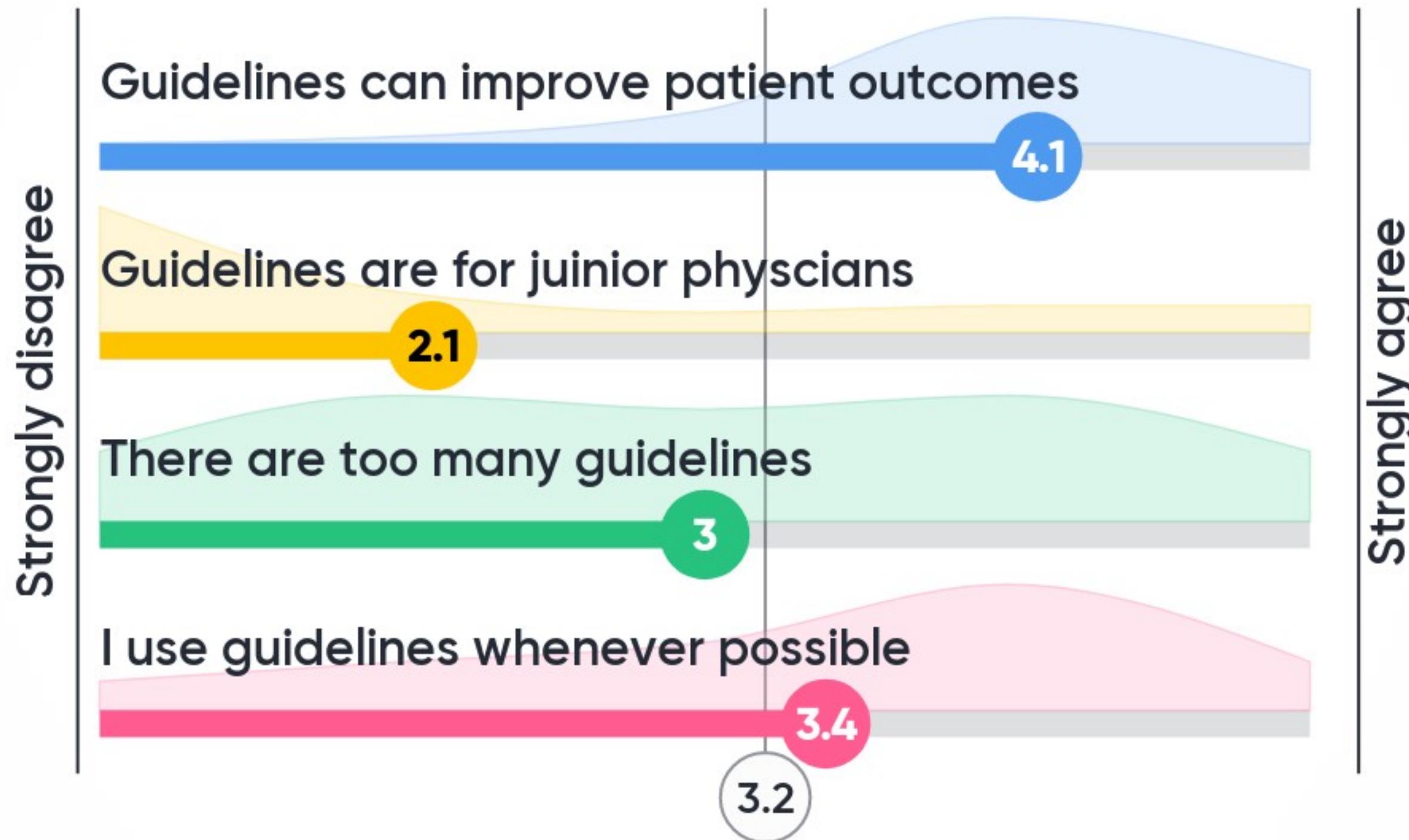
- Can guidelines influence practice ?



Can guidelines influence practice?



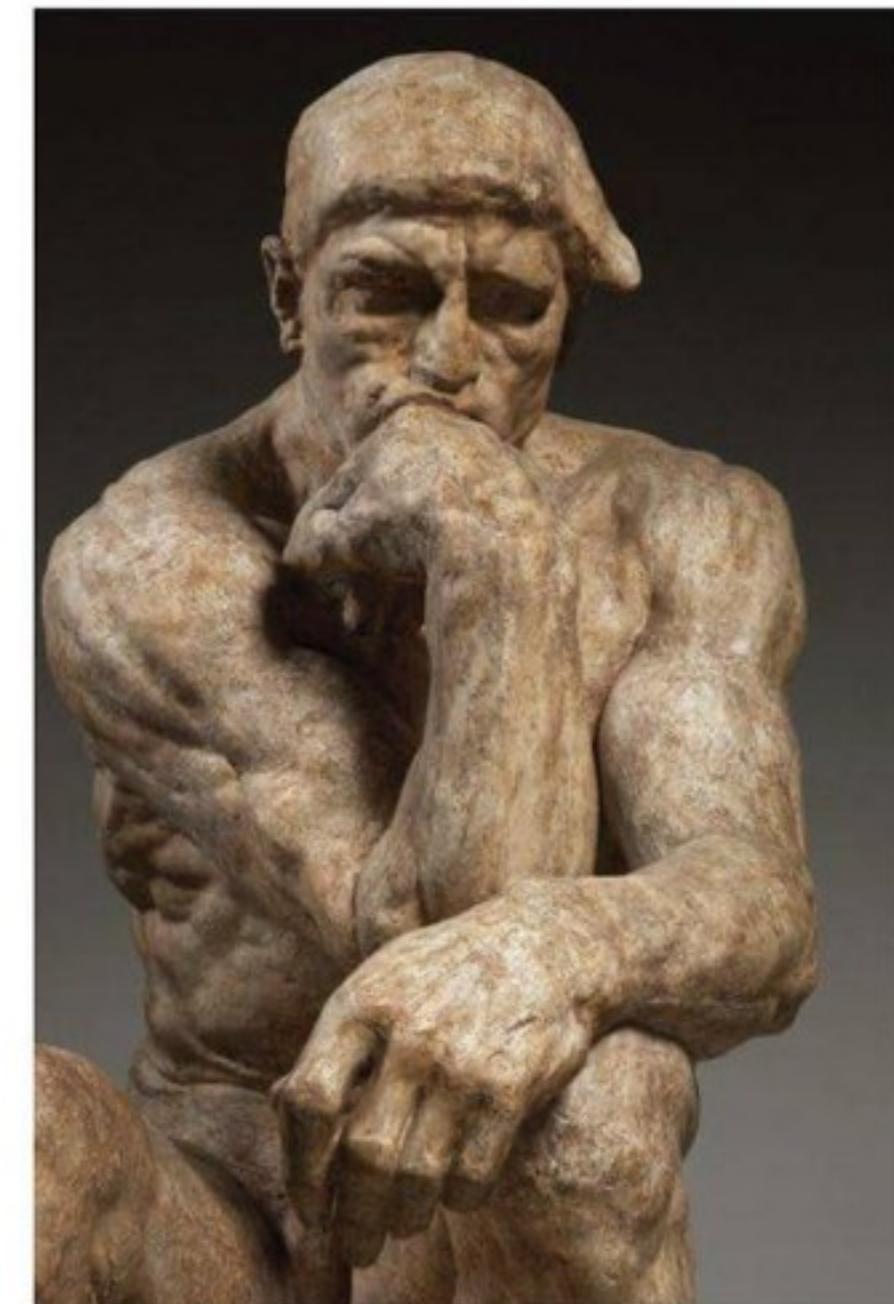
Do you agree with the following statements?



Some reflections

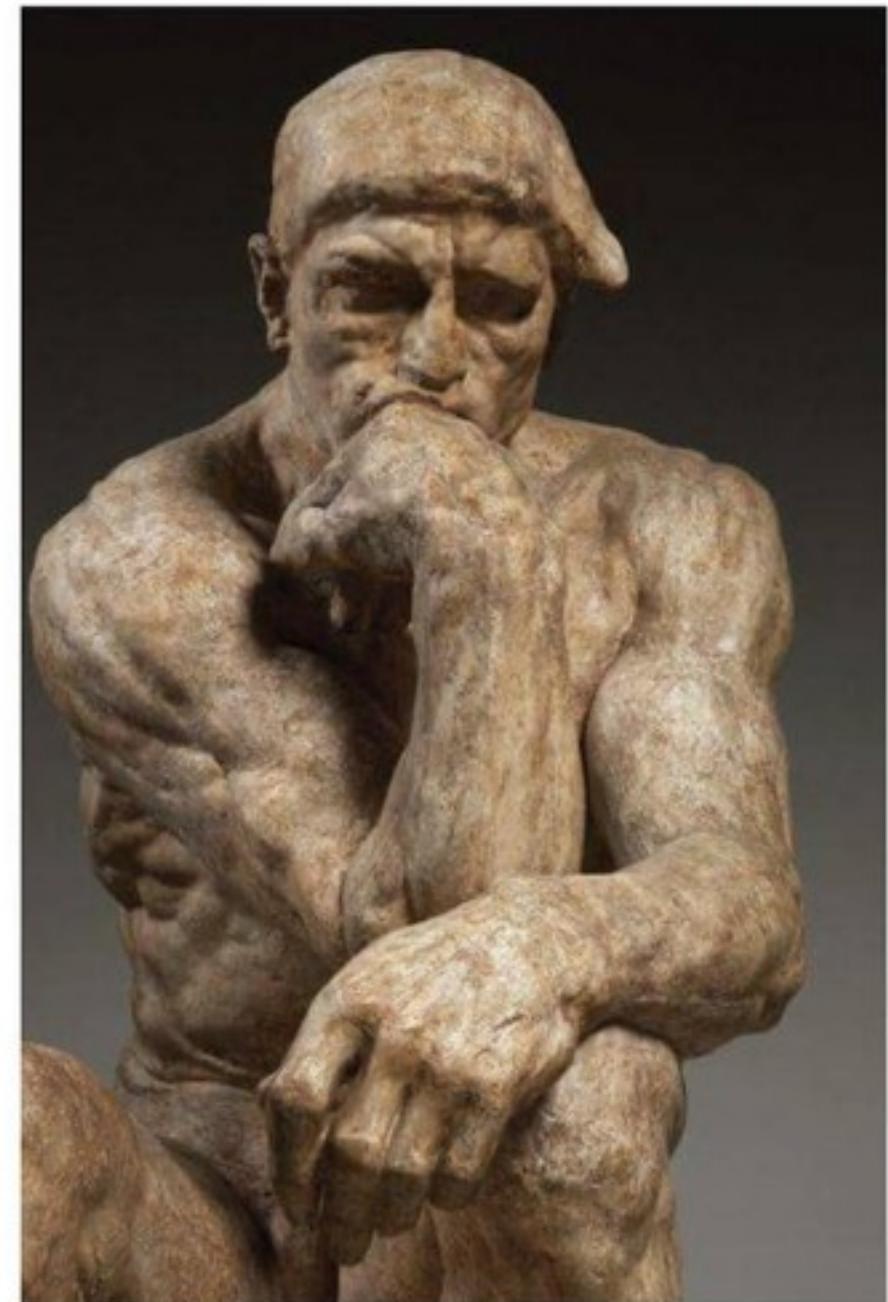
- Can antibiotics cure infections? **YES!**
 - ... if the disease is caused by bacteria
 - ... if the antibiotics are available
 - ... if the bacteria are susceptible
 - ... if the right dose and route is used
 - ... if the immune system plays its role

A lot of “ifs” ...

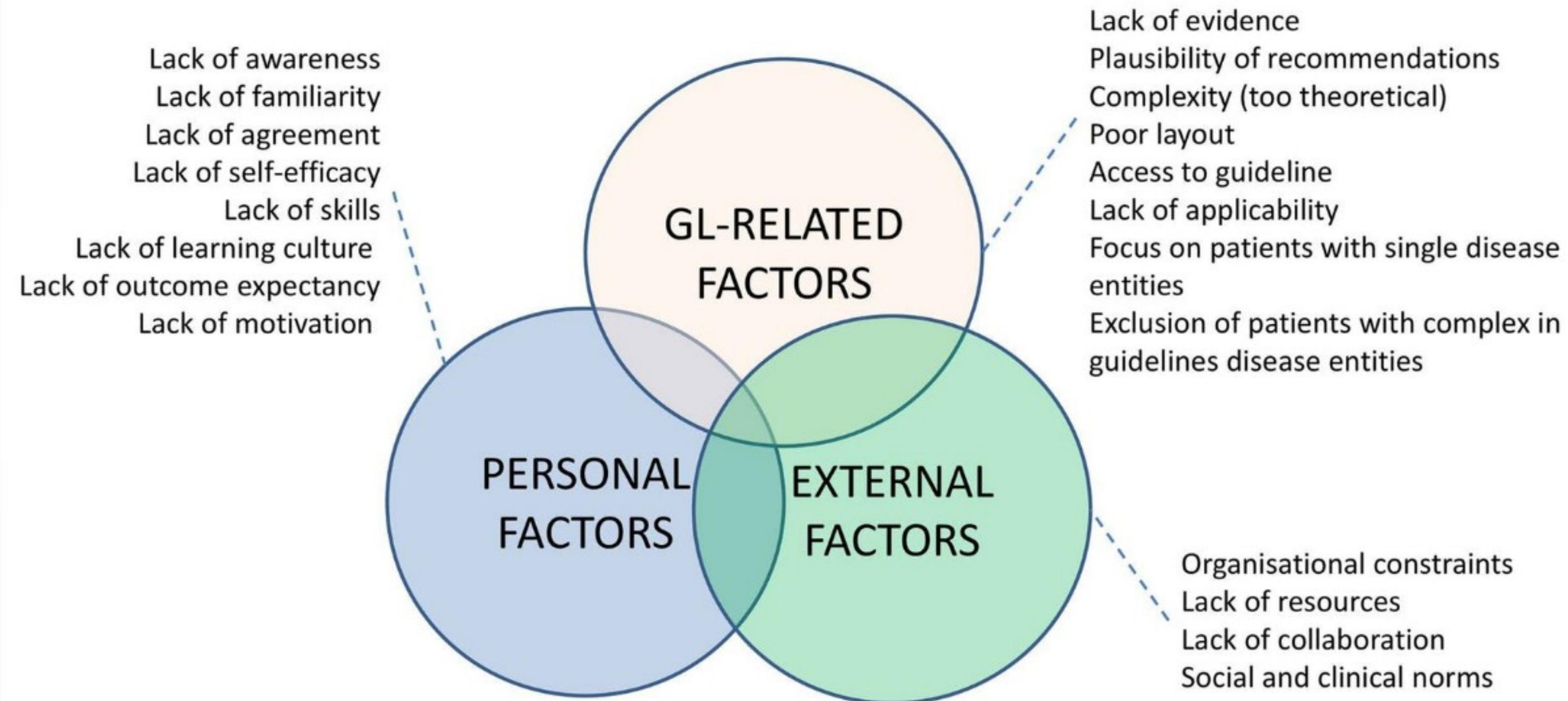


Some reflections

- Can guidelines influence practice ? YES!
 - ... if they are used
 - ... if physicians know about them
 - ... if physicians trust the guidelines
 - ... if they are user-friendly (neither too simple not too complicated)
 -
- What are barriers to the use of guidelines ?



Barriers to guideline implementation



Barrier 1: Physicians don't know about guidelines (Lack of awareness and familiarity... and time)



Barrier 1: Physicians don't know about guidelines

- Survey of 740 attending physicians and trainees in primary care and subspecialties at 3 US academic medical centers
 - Question regarding antibiotic prophylaxis for endoscopic procedures (10 case vignettes)
 - Median of 7 correct answers
- Likert score of 3 (range 1-5) for median self-reported familiarity with the current guideline
- Familiarity associated with more correct responses
 - ... but only weakly (0.21 ; 95% CI, 0.08 - 0.34)

Guidelines can be difficult to find...

Maladies transmissibles

Diagnostic et traitement de la syphilis: recommandations actualisées

GUINTESSANCE

- Après une infection par l'espérance syphilitique, le sérologie peut être négative au début; elle doit alors être répétée 2 à 4 semaines plus tard.
- En cas de suspicion d'une syphilis primaire, il faut demander une recherche des IgM spécifiques (EMM). Ce test est parfois positif avant le RPR/VDRL durant la phase précoce de la syphilis primaire.
- Dans les situations cliniques évoquant l'herpès génital ou ulcérations anogenitales, il peut être indiqué de pratiquer un prélèvement au niveau d'une lesion, ce façon à pouvoir mettre en évidence une infection par l'espérance syphilitique par une PCR.
- Les manifestations atypiques sont plus fréquentes ou dépendent - ex: une fistule constitue d'ulcérations multiples ou dépassant le niveau primaire ou une partie subite d'évolution ou d'une symptomatologie principale d'une syphilis secondaire.
- Le traitement dépend du stade de la maladie et de la présence ou l'absence d'une épidémie du STIC.
- Il est difficile de se procurer de la sensibilisation pour la syphilis en Suisse; celle-ci peut être importante. Le traitement par ce médicament standard paraît la meilleure thérapie pour les casseurs malades en Suisse.
- La division par 4 du titre du VDR, ou du RPR, après 2 mois de traitement. Ceci nécessite généralement 8 à 12 mois pour la syphilis primaire et 12 à 24 mois pour la syphilis latente tardive.
- En raison des lacunes de déclaration, les données épidémiologiques concernant les malades sont insuffisantes. Le système de déclaration de la maladie, le nouveau système est entré en vigueur le 1^{er} janvier 2010.

PRÉSENTATION CLINIQUE ET CHIENNAISSEMENT DIAGNOSTIQUE

En cas de suspicion de syphilis, le diagnostic reste principalement sur la clinique [2]. Dans le système suisse, surtout dans les zones précises, la mise en évidence de l'agent pathogène via analyse de sécrétions, c'est-à-dire via urines, de la maladie par PCR.

QUI ET COMMENT DÉPISTER ?

En cas de suspicion de syphilis, le diagnostic reste principalement sur la clinique [2]. Dans le système suisse, surtout dans les zones précises, la mise en évidence de l'agent pathogène via analyse de sécrétions, c'est-à-dire via urines, de la maladie par PCR.

ESC GUIDELINES

2015 ESC Guidelines for the management of infective endocarditis

The Task Force for the Management of Infective Endocarditis of European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

Endorsed by: European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS), the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM)

European Heart Journal (2015) 36, 3075–3123 doi:10.1093/euroheartj/ehw319

ESCMID medical guidelines



The ESCMID Medical Guidelines Portfolio is currently under the wing of ESCMID Guidelines Director: Dr. Luigia Scudeller, Milano, Italy
Contact through ESCMID office

The Guidelines below are provided for personal use only, and not for redistribution or commercial re-use.

ESCMID Guideline Manual

This document has two major aims:

- (1) an outline of ways ESCMID guidelines can be proposed and developed;
- (2) a guide for drafting group (DG) chairs and members for the guideline development process.

Medical Guideline Publications in 2019

The list of ESCMID medical guidelines published in 2019 is given below.

For a complete list of medical guideline publications published in 2018, have a look at the Publications page



Recommandations aux médecins en cas de MRSA communautaire (C-MRSA)

1. L'essentiel en bref

Dans le canton de Genève, une surveillance cantonale des infections à MRSA d'acquisition communautaire (C-MRSA) a été mise en place en 2002, suite à une alerte d'un laboratoire de ville rapportant un nombre élevé de cas.

La définition du C-MRSA retenu pour cette surveillance est la suivante:

Infection à MRSA isolée chez des patients n'ayant pas d'hospitalisation dans les 12 mois précédant l'infection.

Afin d'éviter la dissémination de ces souches pathogènes et résistantes aux antibiotiques, le groupe de travail cantonal C-MRSA de la direction générale de la santé a rédigé des recommandations pour les médecins et pour les patients.

Ces recommandations pour les médecins vous permettront de diagnostiquer et prendre en charge un patient infecté par du C-MRSA.

Guidelines of the SSI

Guidelines Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) - May 2014:

- in German: [↓ Behandlung von HWI in der Schweiz](#)
- in French: [↓ Traitement des IVU en Suisse](#)

[↓ Recommendations for immunization of solid organ transplant \(SOT\) candidates and recipients](#)
Background document EKIF - February 2014

[↓ Revidierte schweizerische Richtlinien für die Endokarditis-Prophylaxe](#)

[↓ Révision des recommandations suisses pour la prophylaxie de l'endocardite infectieuse](#)

[↓ Endokarditis-Prophylaxe für Kinder und Jugendliche](#)

[↓ Prophylaxie des endocardites pour les enfants et les adolescents](#)

[↓ Profilassi dell'endocardite per bambini e adolescenti](#)

[↓ Endokarditis-Prophylaxe für Erwachsene](#)

[↓ Proph](#)

[↓ Profil](#)

GUIDELINES

in

Infection des voies urinaires (IU)

Infections du pied diabétique (F)

Infektionen des diabetischen Fusses

Standardized Best Practices and Individual Craft-Based Medicine

A Conversation About Quality

Lara Goitein, MD; Brent James, MD, MStat



“...what will happen to physicians’ capacity for critical thinking and originality? “

“... sometimes I can’t help wondering if I’m contributing to **undermining individual excellence and professionalism** by joining the effort to standardize medicine through the use of protocols, algorithms, and order sets.”

” **There is a totalitarian aspect to it that makes me uneasy:** like the villainous Borg in Star Trek, a collective “hive mind” that assimilates individuals, with the goal of achieving perfection.”

Barrier 1: Physicians don't know about guidelines

- Guidelines should be easily available / findable
- Ideally, there should be few different repositories for the guidelines
 - Example NICE in the UK
- Guidelines.ch is a step in the right direction
 - Still insufficiently known
 - Active promotion / education !
- Yes, guidelines may limit autonomy...
 - but so do traffic rules...

Barrier 2: Physicians do not trust guidelines



a person's belief that another person or institution will act consistently with their expectations of positive behaviour.

Factors negatively impacting trust: Conflicts of interest (Col)

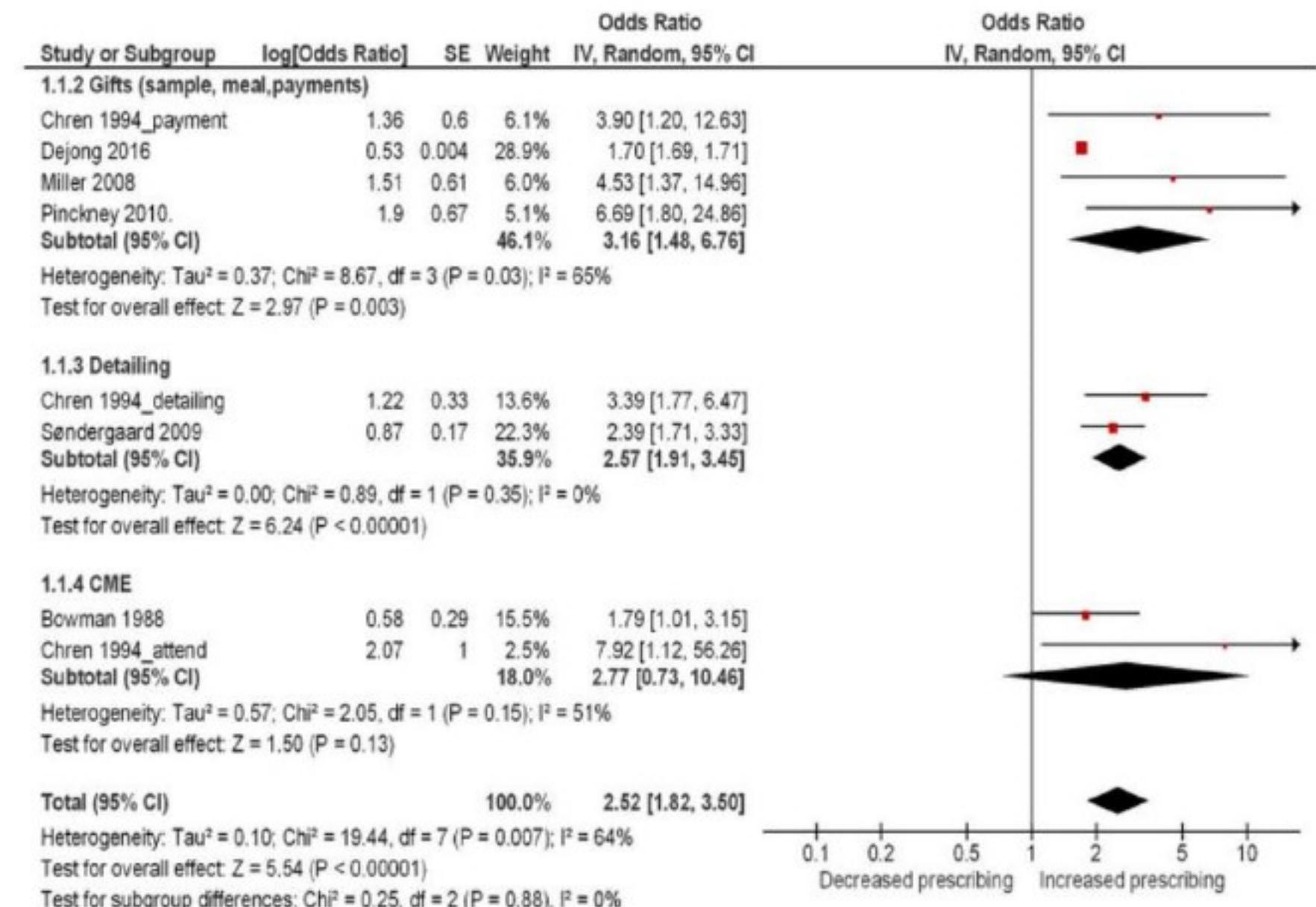


Prevalence of Financial Conflicts of Interest Among Authors of Clinical Guidelines Related to High-Revenue Medications

- Analysis of Col of authors of CPGs endorsed by a US national organization
 - published 2013-2017
 - Making recommendations on **top 10 revenue medications of 2016**
- Comparison with “Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Open Payments (CMS-OP)” website (<https://openpaymentsdata.cms.gov>)
- **49.4% (79/160) declared receipt of a payment**
 - **31.3% (50/160)** declaring receipt of payments from **companies marketing 1 of the 10 high-revenue medications**
 - An additional **25.6% (41/160) undisclosed payments** from companies marketing 1 of the 10 high-revenue medications
 - Median 522 USD (IQR 0 – 40'444)

Association between physicians' interaction with pharmaceutical companies and their clinical practices: A systematic review and meta-analysis

- SR of 19 studies examining association between physicians' interactions with pharmaceutical companies and clinical practices
 - Examples of direct interactions:
 - invitation to a continuing medical education (CME) event
 - active presentation of industry-related information to the physician
 - provision of gifts
- 15/19 studies found association between interactions promoting a medication, and
 - inappropriately increased prescribing rates
 - lower prescribing quality
 - increased prescription costs



Indirect conflicts of interest

RESEARCH AND REPORTING METHODS **Annals of Internal Medicine**

Guidelines International Network: Principles for Disclosure of Interests and Management of Conflicts in Guidelines

Holger J. Schünemann, MD, PhD, MSc; Lubna A. Al-Ansary, MBBS, MSc; Frode Forland, MD, DPH; Sonja Kersten, MSc; Jorma Komulainen, MD, PhD; Ina B. Kopp, MD; Fergus Macbeth, MA, DM; Susan M. Phillips, BSc (Hons), DPhil; Craig Robbins, MD, MPH; Philip van der Wees, PT, PhD; and Amir Qaseem, MD, PhD, MHA, for the Board of Trustees of the Guidelines International Network*

Table. Types and Examples of Conflicts of Interest in Guidelines

Type of Conflict	Domains*	Examples
Direct financial	Direct payments for service Stock options	Payments to participate in a study on an intervention that is subject to a recommendation Consultancy for a manufacturer of a relevant technology/intervention Payment for lectures and meeting attendance in support of a technology/intervention Paid board memberships, patent applications, and research grants† Honoraria and gifts
Indirect‡	Academic advancement Clinical revenue streams Community standing Scientific interest	Having published on a topic that expresses an opinion on the effectiveness of an intervention or doing research on a topic that could be affected by a recommendation§ Being an acknowledged expert in the intervention Gaining clinical income from the recommendation Leadership or board or committee memberships Involvement with an advocacy group that may gain from a guideline Writing or consulting for an educational company Personal convictions or positions

- **Principle 1:** CPG developers should make all possible efforts to **not include members with direct financial** or relevant indirect COIs
- **Principle 2:** The definition of COI and its management applies **to all members of a CPG** development group
- **Principle 3:** A CPG development group should use **standardized forms** for disclosure of interests.
- **Principle 4:** A CPG development group should **disclose interests publicly**
- **Principle 5:** All members of a CPG development group should declare and **update** any changes in interests at each meeting of the group and at regular intervals
- **Principle 6:** **Chairs** of CPG development groups should have **no direct financial or relevant indirect COIs**
- **Principle 7:** Experts with relevant COIs and specific knowledge or expertise may be permitted to participate in discussion of individual topics, but there should be an **appropriate balance of opinion** among those sought to provide input.
- **Principle 8:** **No member** of the guideline development group **deciding** about the direction or strength of a recommendation should have a direct financial COI.
- **Principle 9:** An **oversight committee** should be responsible for developing and implementing rules related to COIs.

CARDIOVASCULAR PERSPECTIVE

Professional Societies Should Abstain From Authorship of Guidelines and Disease Definition Statements

Guidelines and other statements from professional societies have become increasingly influential. These documents shape how disease should be prevented and treated and what should come within the remit of medical care. Changes in definition of illness can easily increase overnight by millions the number of people who deserve specialist care. This has been seen repeatedly in conditions as diverse as hypertension, diabetes mellitus, composite cardiovascular risk, depression, rheumatoid arthritis, or gastroesophageal reflux.¹ Similarly, changes in prevention or treatment options may escalate overnight the required cost of care by billions of dollars.² Should the specialists of the respective field be the developers for such influential articles?

“An alternative approach ... would be to avoid having specialists assume any major role in guidelines that pertain to their own fields.”

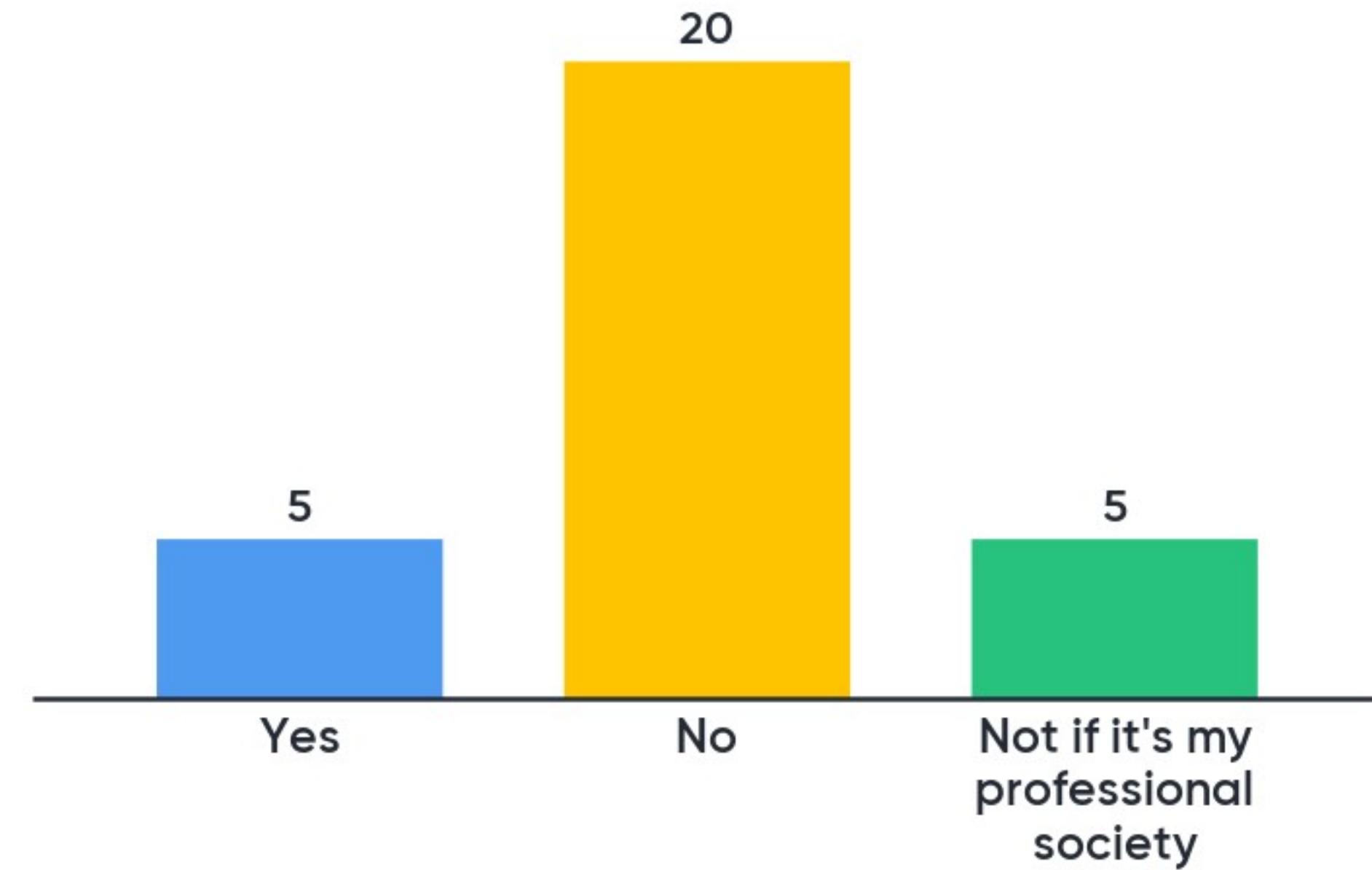


**John P.A. Ioannidis, MD,
DSc**

Table. The Overwhelming Representation of Guideline Publications Among the Top-Cited Articles (Citation Counts Are Per Google Scholar) in a Sample of the Most-Cited Authors in Cardiovascular Medicine

Name of Author	Articles that have >2000 citations			Most-Cited Article Citations	Type
	Guidelines	Industry Trials	Other		
Abraham, William T	3	3	0	5355	Guideline
Achenbach, Stephan	7	0	0	8094	Guideline
Adams, Cynthia D	5	0	0	4115	Guideline
Albert, Nancy M	0	0	0	1551	Guideline
Angiolillo, Dominick J	0	0	0	1167	Industry trial
Anker, Stephan D	3	0	0	8094	Guideline
Antman, Elliott M	15	3	1*	6604	Guideline
Atar, Dan	7	1	0	6314	Guideline
Avezum, Alvaro	0	2	1*	10812	Other*
Fagard, Robert H	12	0	1*	8809	Guideline
Feldman, Ted E	1	1	0	3344	Industry trial
Filippatos, Gerasimos S	17	0	0	19293	Guideline
Fonarow, Gregg C	4	0	0	6295	Guideline
Fox, Keith AA	3	0	0	6604	Guideline
Fuster, Valentin	14	0	2	9997	Guideline
Halperin, Jonathan	8	1	0	6368	Industry trial
Harrington, Robert A.	0	1	0	4953	Industry trial
Hochman, Judith S	5	0	1	4115	Guideline
Hohnloser, Stefan H	2	2	0	5686	Industry trial
Holmes, David R	0	2	1	5134	Industry trial
Huber, Kurt	5	0	0	4987	Guideline
Hunt, Sharon Ann	9	0	0	5101	Guideline
Husted, Steen E	1	1	0	4953	Industry trial
Wallentin, Lars C	4	3	0	8952	Industry trial
Wang, Thomas J	0	0	1	2347	Other
Webb, John G	0	2	1	4509	Industry trial
White, Harvey D	2	0	2	6604	Guideline
Widimsky, Petr	12	0	0	8802	Guideline
Wijns, William	9	0	0	8094	Guideline
Windecker, Stephan	15	0	0	8094	Guideline
Wiviott, Stephen D	0	4	0	5495	Industry trial
Wood, David A	1	0	0	8132	Guideline

Should professional societies abstain from authoring guidelines?



Factors negatively impacting trust:

Conflicts of interests

- Financial (direct and indirect) conflicts of interest are a pervasive problem in medicine
 - Voluntary disclosures practices remain clearly suboptimal
 - The optimal solution remains unclear
 - Stricter enforcement / control & threat of consequences?
- Non-financial conflicts of interest cannot be avoided
 - Need to be managed in a “fair, judicious, transparent manner”
 - No easy solution

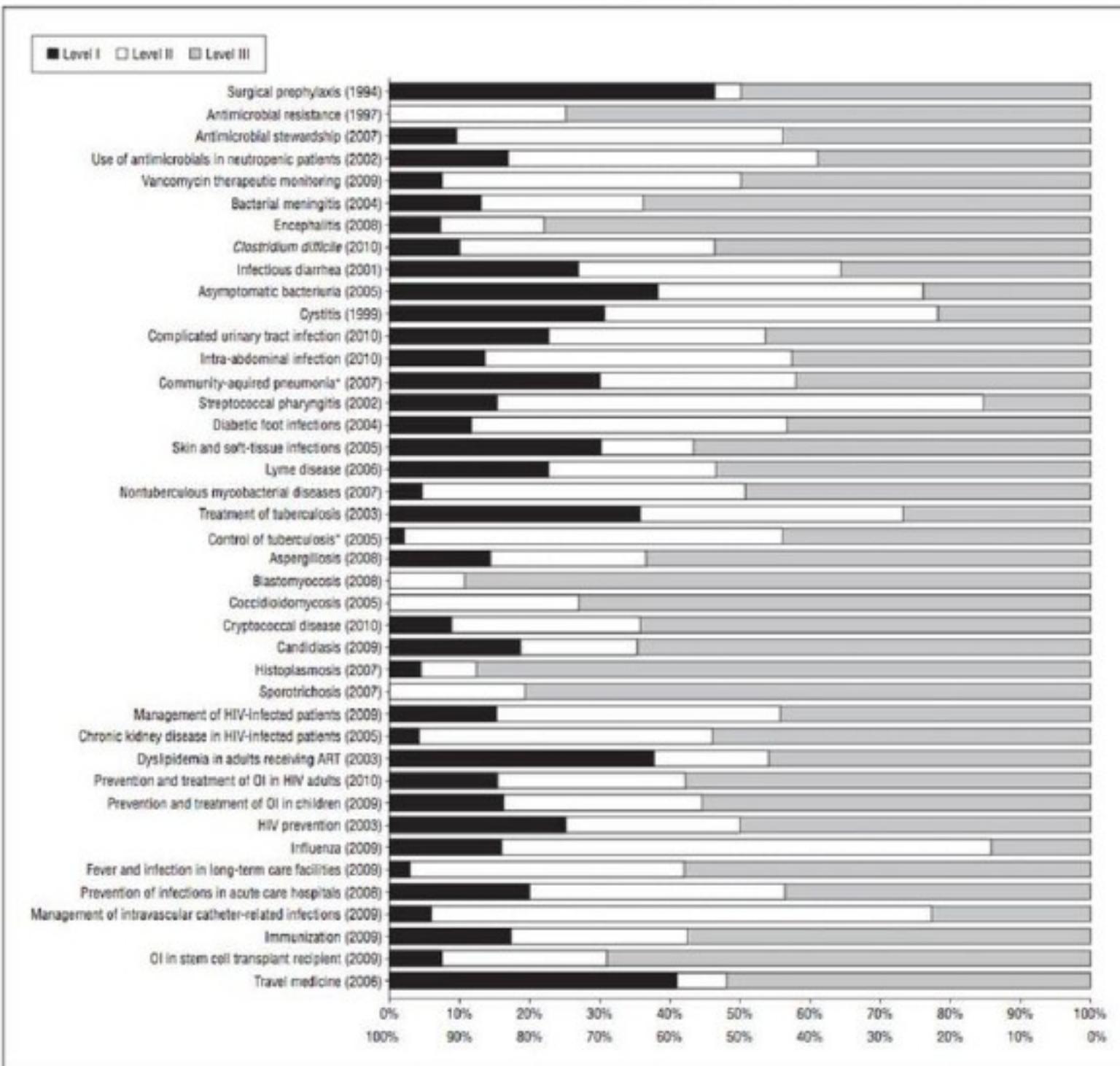
Factors negatively impacting trust:

Lack of evidence



**"I have said it thrice:
What I tell you three times is true."**
Lewis Carroll, The Hunting of the Snark

Analysis of Overall Level of Evidence Behind Infectious Diseases Society of America Practice Guidelines (1994-2010)



“Of the 4218 individual recommendations **only 14%** were supported by the strongest (**level I**) quality of evidence”

I: evidence from 1 properly randomized controlled trial

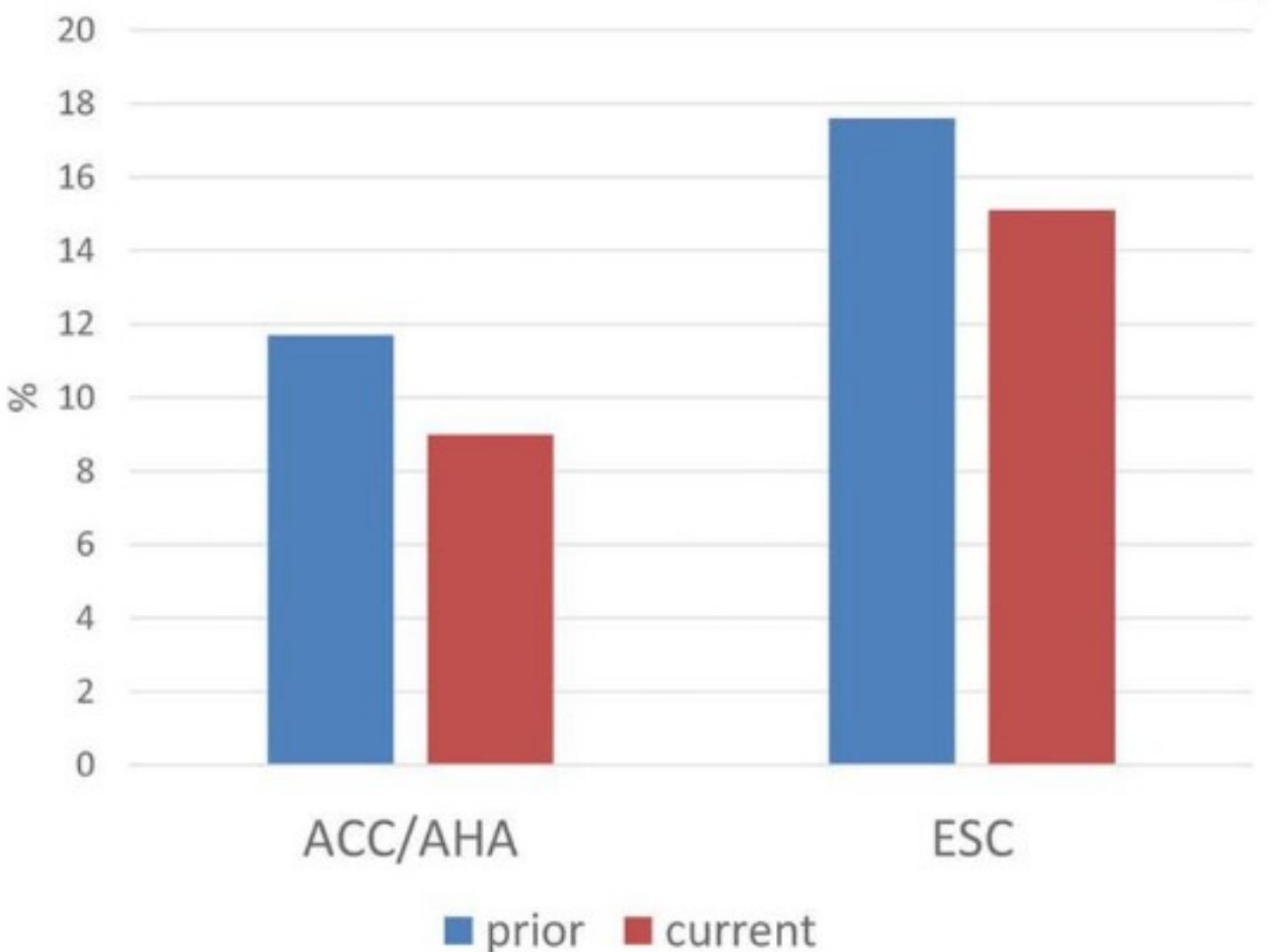
II: evidence from 1 well-designed clinical trial, without randomization, from cohort or case-controlled analytical studies or from dramatic results from uncontrolled experiments

III: evidence from opinions of respected authorities based on clinical experience, descriptive studies, or reports of expert committees

Levels of Evidence Supporting American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association and European Society of Cardiology Guidelines, 2008-2018

- Systematic review of 51 current guideline documents
 - American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association (ACC/AHA)
 - European Society of Cardiology (ESC)
- 6329 recommendations assessed
 - Level of evidence A (evidence from multiple RCTs)
 - ACC/AHA 8.5%
 - ESC 14.3%
- Class I, LOE C recommendations
 - ACC/AHA 37%
 - ESC 49%

Evolution of recommendations based on level A evidence



Factors negatively impacting trust: Guidelines do not assess evidence transparently



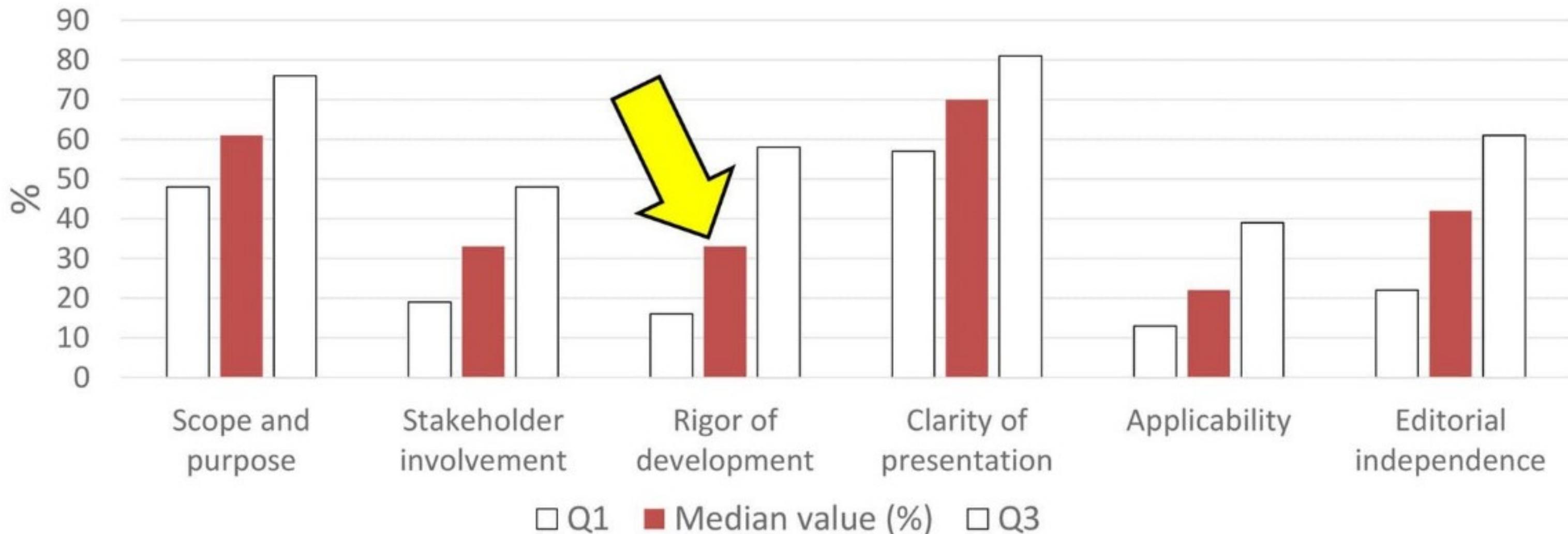
AGREE
REPORTING CHECKLIST

Factors Associated With High-Quality Guidelines for the Pharmacologic Management of Chronic Diseases in Primary Care

A Systematic Review

- Assessment of 421 CPGs
 - management of common noncommunicable diseases in primary care
 - published 2011-2017
 - written in English, Portuguese, Spanish
- CPG defined as “*any review (systematic or not) containing pharmacologic recommendations for the management of common NCDs in primary care*”
- Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation Instrument, version II (AGREE-II) tool
- 322/421 (76.5%) rated as **low quality**

Characterization of Clinical Practice Guidelines Using the AGREE-II Instrument, Stratified Score Domains



- 36.1% used a systematic review to develop guidelines
- 17.6% reported a formal method for achieving consensus

Factors negatively impacting trust:

Lack of evidence

- Lack of evidence is a problem
 - ... and will remain a problem
 - more and better studies needed...
- Guidelines should be transparent how the evidence was assessed and how the evidence was used to formulate recommendations (GRADE)

Factors negatively impacting trust: Lack of agreement among guidelines



Analysis of different recommendations from international guidelines for the management of acute pharyngitis in adults and children

Table III. Comparison among different guideline recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of group A β -hemolytic streptococci pharyngitis.

Guideline	Screening	Diagnosis	Throat Culture if RADT Is Negative	When to Treat?
ACP-ASIM ¹¹	Centor score	Perform RADT only if Centor score is 2–3	Adults: no Children: yes	Centor score of 4 or RADT or throat culture positive
IDSA ⁹	Clinical and epidemiological parameters	Perform throat culture or RADT in all patients at risk	Adults: no Children: yes	RADT or throat culture positive
ICSI ¹⁰	Clinical and epidemiologic parameters	Perform throat culture or RADT in all patients at risk	Adults: yes Children: yes	RADT or throat culture positive
AHA, ⁸ AAP ²	Clinical and epidemiologic parameters	Perform throat culture or RADT in all patients at risk	Adults: yes ⁸ Children: yes ^{2,8}	RADT or throat culture positive
United Kingdom ¹⁵	Centor score	Clinical diagnosis if Centor score is ≥ 3	Not applicable	Centor score ≥ 3 , presence of other clinical findings (see text)
Canada ¹²	Clinical and epidemiologic parameters	Perform throat culture (not RADT) in all patients at risk	Not applicable	Throat culture positive
Scotland ¹⁶	The Centor score should be used to assist the decision on whether to prescribe an antibiotic but cannot be relied on for a precise diagnosis	Throat swabs should not be conducted routinely. They may be used to establish etiology of recurrent severe episodes in adults when considering referral for tonsillectomy	Not applicable	Antibiotics should not be used routinely. In severe cases, in which the practitioner is concerned about the clinical condition of the patient, antibiotics should not be withheld

Guidelines do not agree with each other...

- Not really surprising given the lack of evidence in many areas
- Even if there was perfect evidence, guideline may still defer
 - Differences in the subjective weight given to different outcomes

Vignette: You analyze the data in your hospital and realized that 10% of all patients hospitalized for upper UTI have an infection with an ESBL-producing organism. Should you change your guidelines to recommend empiric carbapenem use for all patients hospitalized with upper UTI?

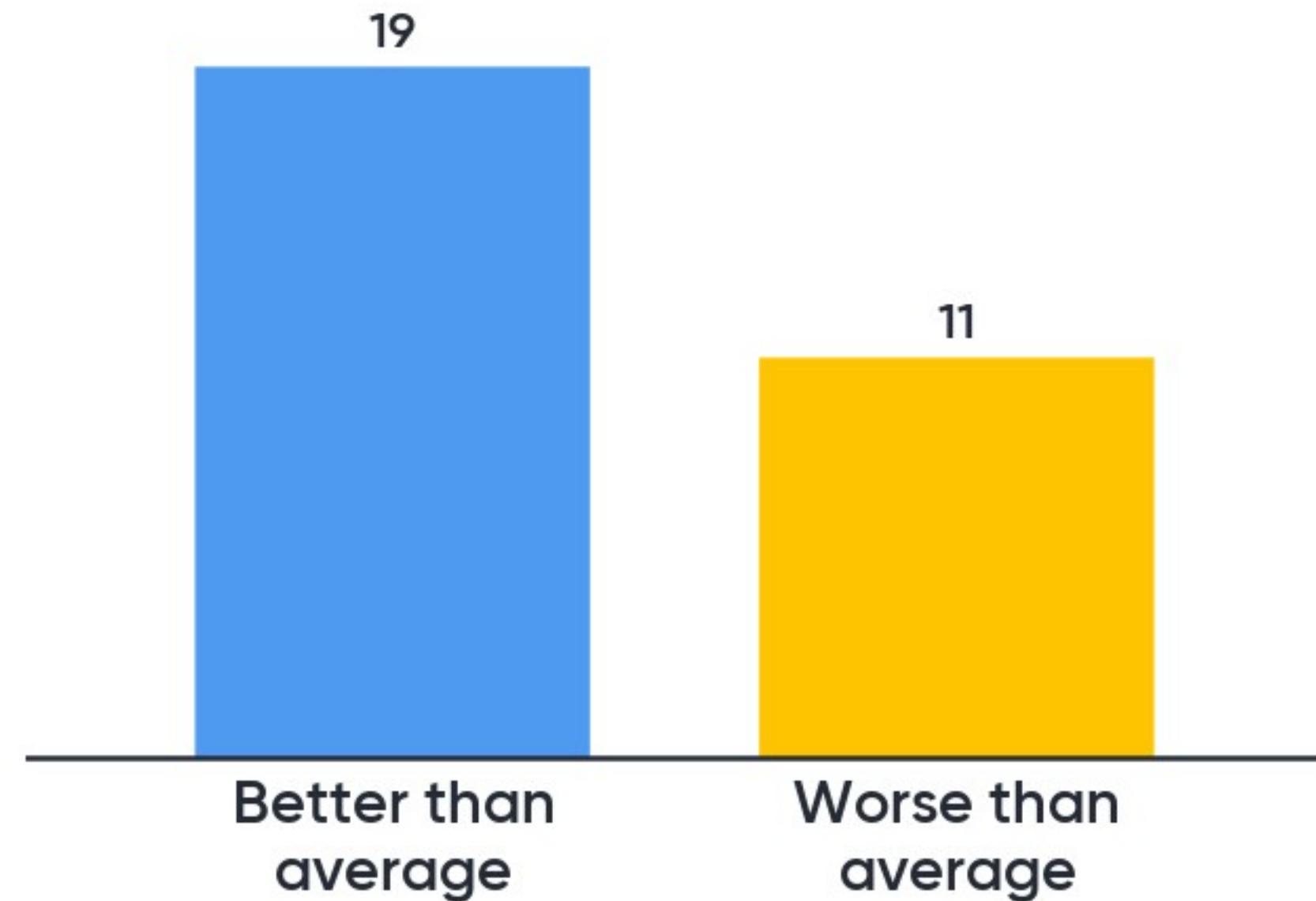
Factors negatively impacting trust: “The authors of the guidelines do not apply the guidelines themselves”



TAKE MY ADVICE
I don't use it anyway



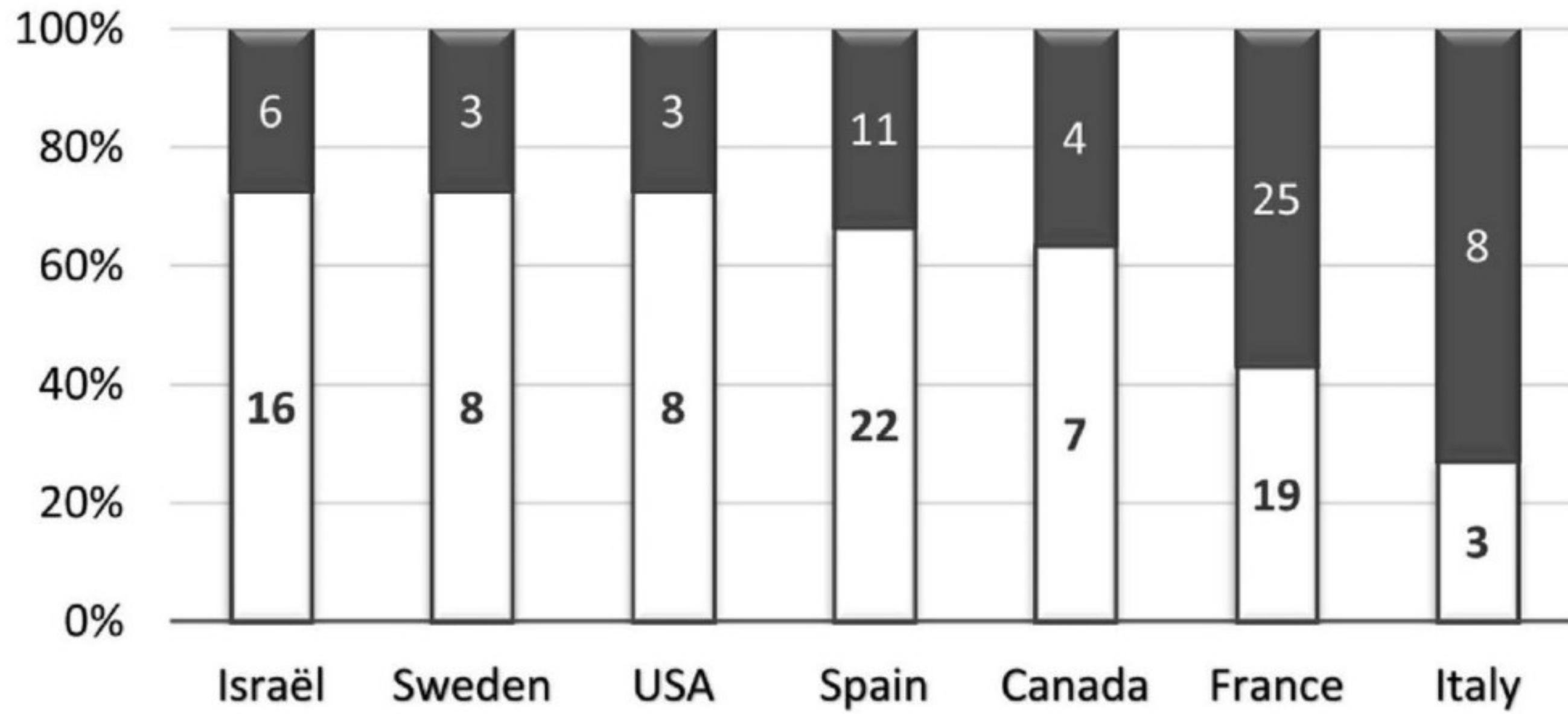
How do you consider your driving skills compared to the average in this room?



International experts' practice in the antibiotic therapy of infective endocarditis is not following the guidelines

- 13 international centers “specialized” in the management of IE
 - Selected according to their “reputation”, “clinical results”, original research publications and “quotations”
 - France (4), Italy, Sweden, Spain (3), Israel (2), Canada, USA
- Asked to outline actual practice in terms antibiotic treatment for IE in different situations

Experts do not follow their (own) recommendations



Barrier 3: Guidelines do not apply to my patients

My patients
are different!

Lack of representativeness of guidelines is a problem => more “pragmatic trials needed”

- Participation of elderly adults in randomized controlled trials addressing antibiotic treatment of pneumonia.
- Systematic review of RCTs (n=43) and prospective observational studies (n=182) published since 2005 for pneumonia (CAP, HCAP, VAP)

Pneumonia Classification	RCT	Observational	P-Value
	Mean ± SD (n)		
CAP all trials ^a	54.0 ± 9.6 (23)	66.2 ± 8.1 (113)	<.001
CAP—ambulatory	45 ± 4.2 (2)	58.2 ± 17.5 (1)	NA
CAP—ambulatory/hospitalized	45.6 ± 1.6 (3)	63.7 ± 7.04 (11)	.001
CAP—hospitalized	55.0 ± 9.1 (16)	65.3 ± 8.2 (81)	.001
CAP—hospitalized, HCAP included	68.0 ± 3.5 (2)	65.3 ± 7.5 (20)	.62
Hospitalized, all	56.4 ± 9.5 (18)	66.2 ± 8.14 (101)	.001
HCAP	84.4 ± 2.2 (3)	71.5 ± 11 (9)	.08
HCAP and CAP—hospitalized included	77.9 ± 9.3 (5)	66.2 ± 8.3 (29)	.08
HAP/ventilator-acquired pneumonia	57.4 ± 9.3 (13)	62.9 ± 9.7 (61)	.06

Failure to take into account individual patient preferences

 Mentimeter

van der Weijden *et al.* *Implementation Science* 2010, **5**:10
<http://www.implementationscience.com/content/5/1/10>



STUDY PROTOCOL

Open Access

How to integrate individual patient values and preferences in clinical practice guidelines? A research protocol

Trudy van der Weijden^{1*}, France Légaré², Antoine Boivin³, Jako S Burgers⁴, Haske van Veenendaal⁴, Anne M Stiggebout⁵, Marjan Faber³, Glyn Elwyn⁶

Arguments against guidelines

“Guidelines do not take into account individual patient preferences” True, but...

- It's difficult
- Infectious disease: Tragedy of the commons
 - Potentially it would be in the interest of the individual to be treated with broad spectrum antibiotics....



Tragedy of the commons

Individualization of guidelines

- RCTs assess the “average” treatment effect
- We have no way of making clear causal inferences for individual patients
 - We do not know the outcome of the counterfactual



Arguments for guidelines



Does following guidelines harm patients?

Effect on mortality of prescribing empirical antimicrobial therapy according to guidelines

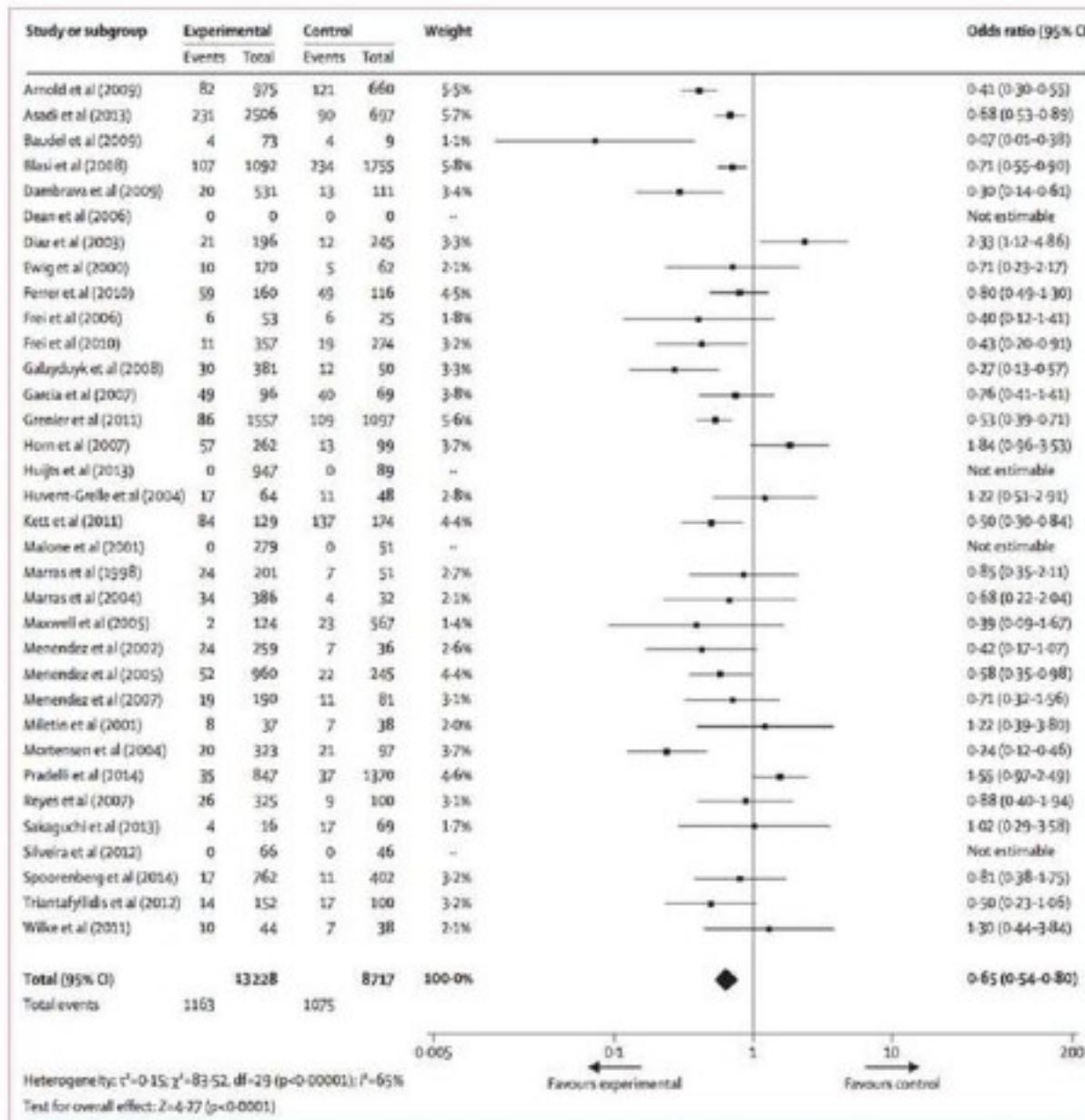


Figure 2: Effect on mortality of prescribing empirical antimicrobial therapy according to guidelines



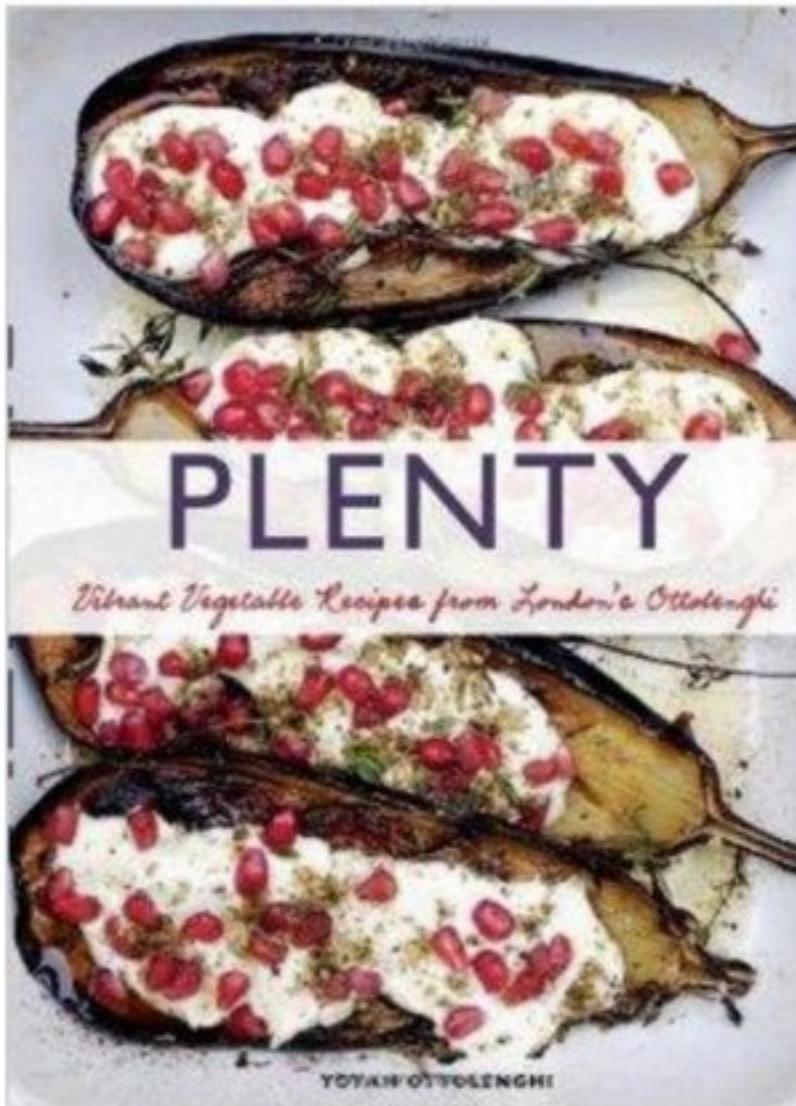
Probably not
BIAS ALERT!

Guidelines reduce cognitive load



The cookbook approach

Not always a bad choice...



INGREDIENTS

- 2 large and long eggplants
 - 1/3 cup olive oil
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons lemon thyme leaves (regular thyme will do), plus a few whole sprigs to garnish
 - Maldon sea salt and black pepper
 - 1 pomegranate
 - 1 teaspoon za'atar
- Sauce**
- 9 tablespoons buttermilk
 - 1/2 cup Greek yogurt
 - 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil, plus a drizzle to finish
 - 1 small garlic clove, crushed
 - 1 pinch salt

RECIPE PREPARATION

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Cut the eggplants in half lengthways, cutting straight through the green stalk (the stalk is for the look; don't eat it). Use a small sharp knife to make three or four parallel incisions in the cut side of each eggplant half, without cutting through to the skin. Repeat at a 45-degree angle to get a diamond-shaped pattern.

Place the eggplant halves, cut-side up, on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Brush them with olive oil—keep on brushing until all of the oil has been absorbed by the flesh. Sprinkle with the lemon thyme leaves and some salt and pepper. Roast for 35 to 40 minutes, at which point the flesh should be soft, flavorful, and nicely browned. Remove from the oven and let cool completely.

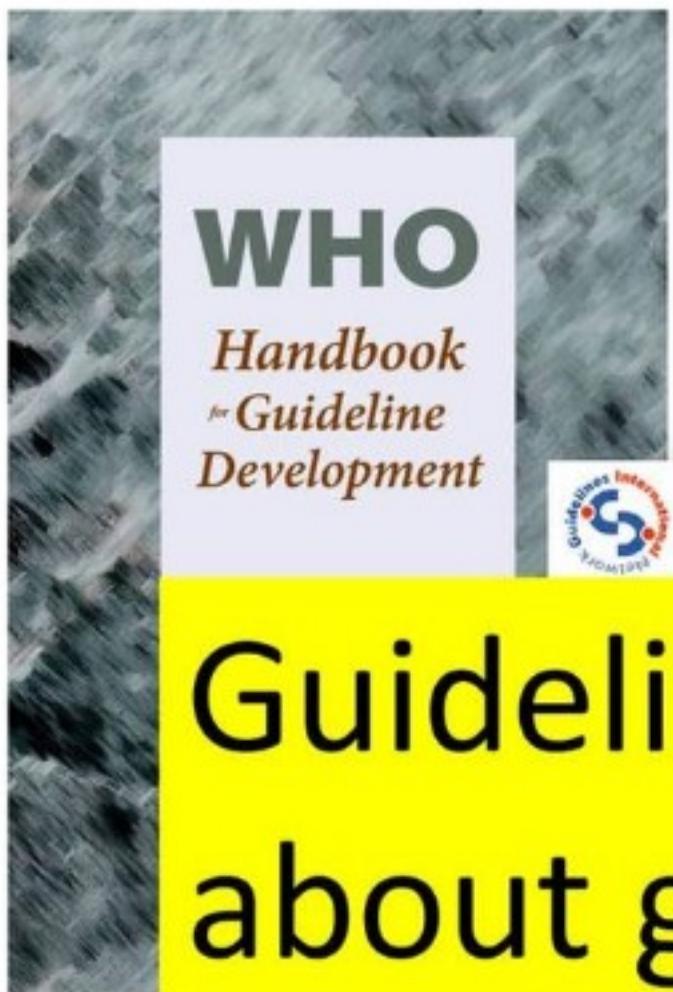
While the eggplants are in the oven, cut the pomegranate into two horizontally. Hold one half over a bowl, with the cut side against your palm, and use the back of a wooden spoon or a rolling pin to gently knock on the pomegranate skin. Continue beating with increasing power until the seeds start coming out naturally and falling through your fingers into the bowl. Once all are there, sift through the seeds and remove any bits of white skin or membrane.

To make the sauce, whisk together all of the ingredients. Taste for seasoning, then keep cold until needed.

To serve, spoon plenty of buttermilk sauce over the eggplant halves without covering the stalks. Sprinkle za'atar and plenty of pomegranate seeds on top and garnish with lemon thyme. Finish with a drizzle of olive oil.

Guidelines have many issues

The solution....



A screenshot of the IDSA website's 'Development Resources' section. The header includes the IDSA logo and navigation links like 'Topics of Interest', 'Manage Your Practice', 'Guidelines/Patient Care', 'Careers & Training', 'Policy & Advocacy', and 'News & Events'. The main content area is titled 'Development Resources' and contains sections for 'Development Resources', 'Educational Resources', 'Evidence Reports, Literatures and Systematic Reviews', and 'Survey and Statistics'. There are also links to 'GRADE', 'IDSA Handbooks on Guideline Development', and 'Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE)'. A sidebar on the right includes a 'Newsletter' link and a 'Contact Us' button.

Guidelines about guidelines about guidelines... 😊

A screenshot of the G-I-N (Guideline International Network) website. The page features a yellow banner at the top with the text 'Guidelines about guidelines about guidelines... 😊'. Below this, there are several columns of text and links. One column discusses the network's role in supporting guideline development and implementation. Another column lists benefits for joining Working Groups, such as sharing expertise and access to resources. At the bottom, there are links for 'My member', 'Join more', and 'How can I join? Online application'.

Process and methods guides

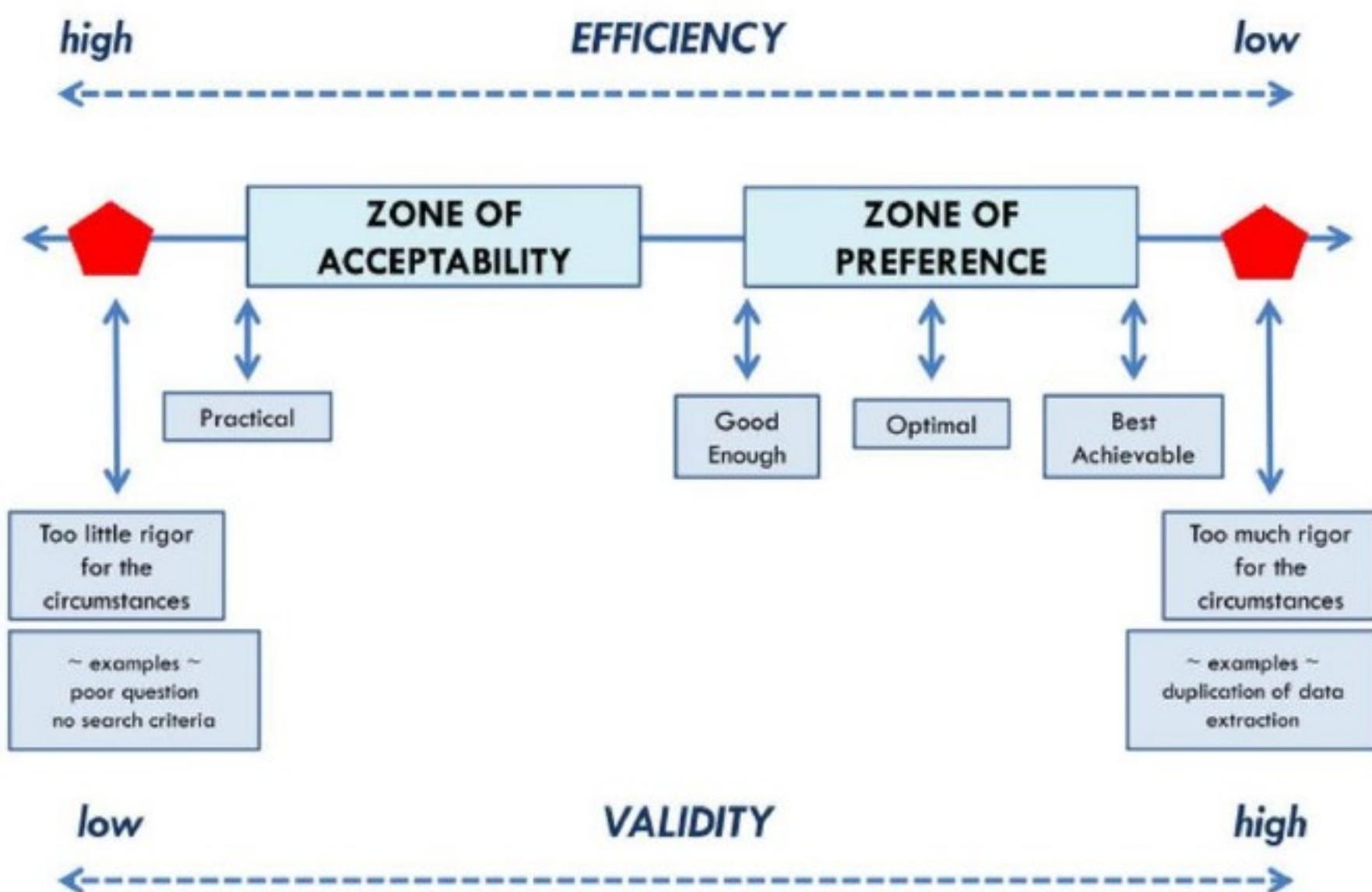
Developing NICE guidelines: the manual



When is good, good enough? Methodological pragmatism for sustainable guideline development

George P Browman¹, Mark R Somerfield², Gary H Lyman^{3,4} and Melissa C Brouwers^{5*}

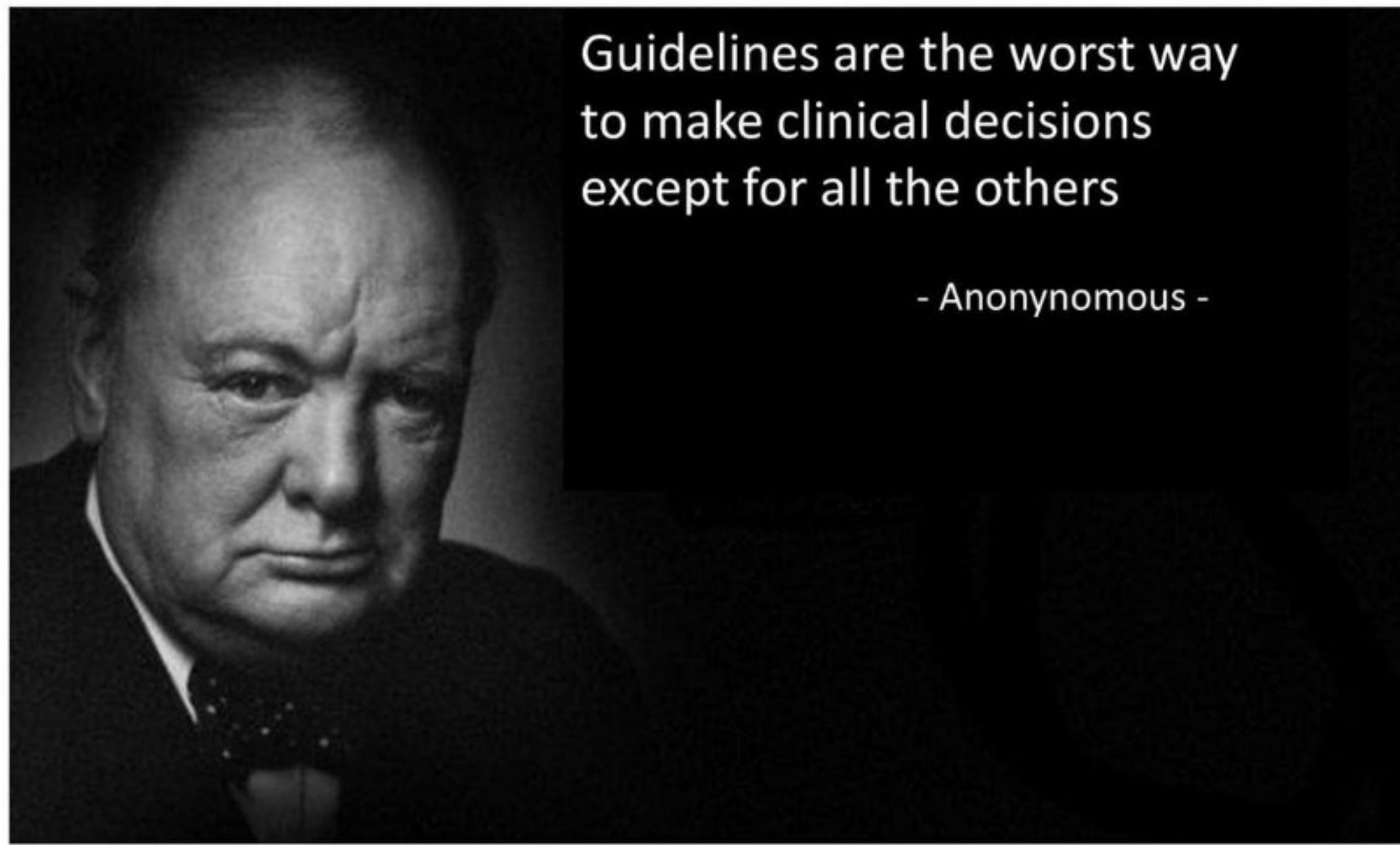
- Direct costs for guideline development up to 200 000 USD per guideline (US data)
- **Trade-off between validity and efficiency**
- *“...we simply do not know at what point increasing methodological rigor leads to appreciably more valid and implementable recommendations that, in turn, lead to better outcomes or more affordable care.”*



Guidelines: conclusions

- Guidelines / guidance documents are not a panaceum
 - They are still better than most alternatives to guide clinical decisions
- Transparency is key
 - Conflicts of interest, panel composition, methodology, evidence to decision framework etc.
- A clear definition (and enforcement) of procedures and methods to follow should allow increasing the quality (and acceptance) of GPC
- Guidelines need to be promoted and should be user-friendly and easily accessible
 - Electronic tools ?

Thank you!



Comments - questions



Programme

Time	Subject	Speaker
09:00	Registration / coffee break	
09:30	Welcome address and introduction	Prof. Andreas Widmer Swissnoso Prof. Nicolas Müller Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases
09:45	Welcome address from the FOPH	Pascal Strupler Director-General Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH)
10:00	European perspective	Prof. Petra Gastmeier Charité Berlin
10:35	Carbapenemase producers in Switzerland	Prof. Patrice Nordmann NARA; University of Fribourg; INSERM
11:00	MDRO: molecular diagnostic tools	Prof. Andrea Endimiani University of Bern, Institute of Infectious Diseases
11:25	Coffee break	
11:45	The environment: an important source of MDRO	Prof. Andreas Widmer Swissnoso
12:15	ANRESIS: an update	Prof. Andreas Kronenberg ANRESIS
12:45	Lunch	
13:45	Raw meat-based diets for companion animals: a new threat for spreading of multidrug resistant Enterobacteriaceae	Prof. Roger Stephan Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Zurich
14:20	Antibiotic Stewardship in Swiss hospitals Inselspital Centre hospitalier universitaire vaudois Kantonsspital Luzern	Dr. Julia Bielicki , Swissnoso Dr. Nasstasia Wassilew PD Dr. Laurence Senn Dr. Beat Sonderegger
15:10	Management of health-care associated outbreaks – first national guidelines.	Dr. Danielle Vuichard Gysin Swissnoso
15:35	Can guidelines influence practice?	Dr. Benedikt Huttner Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève
15:55	Sum-up and closing	Prof. Andreas Widmer Swissnoso Prof. Nicolas Müller Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases
16:15	Afternoon snack	