

Implementation tools developed by guideline producers may improve guideline uptake

Clinical Question	How effective are implementation tools developed and disseminated by clinical practice guideline (CPG) producers in promoting guideline uptake?
Bottom Line	Implementation tools developed by recognised CPG producers probably led to improved healthcare professionals' adherence to guidelines in the management of non-specific low back pain and ordering thyroid-function tests. The clinical condition, type of healthcare professional, and behaviour targeted by the CPG varied across studies. There were limited data on the relative costs of implementing these interventions. There were no studies evaluating the effectiveness of interventions targeting the organisation of care (e.g. benchmarking tools, costing templates, etc.), or for mass media interventions.
Caveat	It was not possible to draw any conclusions about the comparative effectiveness of implementation tools, due to the small number of studies, the heterogeneity between interventions, and the clinical conditions that were targeted.
Context	The uptake of CPGs is inconsistent, despite their potential to improve the quality of health care and patient outcomes. Some guideline producers have addressed this problem by developing tools to encourage faster adoption of new guidelines.
Cochrane Systematic Review	Flodgren G et al. Tools developed and disseminated by guideline producers to promote the uptake of their guidelines. Cochrane Reviews, 2016, Issue 8. Art. No.: CD010669.DOI: 10.1002/14651858. CD010669.pub2. This review contains four studies involving four different countries (Netherlands, France, USA and Canada).
