

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES (CPG) UNIT

Objectives

At the end of this module the learner should be able to:

- understand the format of guidelines
- Be familiar with GRADE system for levels of evidence and grades of recommendations.
- Be able also to assess the key credibility elements that CPG should fulfill.
- Get familiar for important considerations while applying the CPG in individual patient care.

Assignments

1. Read the 2 chapters listed in the reading material.
2. Read the clinical scenario.
3. Formulate your clinical question.
4. Read the relevant parts of the three published (free access) guidelines (links below).
5. Critically appraise at least one of the guidelines (**we suggest ACCP guidelines**) using the worksheet.
6. Try to resolve the clinical scenario.

Clinical Scenario

Mr. Cook is a 61-year-old patient known type II diabetic for the last 20 years with good control on oral hypoglycemic medication. He has a past history of minor stroke 5 years ago with complete recovery. He was admitted to ER after 4 hours of the onset of signs of cerebral stroke. After getting the patient consent, r-tPA was administered. Unfortunately, patient developed cerebral hemorrhage as documented by follow-up CT scan. The case was discussed in the morbidity meeting. Three Different opinions were mentioned based on guidelines regarding administration of r-tPA in window 3-4.5 hours

CPG1: weak against - by the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (**2B**) (Weak recommendation, moderate quality evidence).

http://caep.ca/sites/caep.ca/files/caep/comment_on_stroke_position_statement.pdf

CPG2: strong for - by American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (**Class I; Level of evidence B**)

http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/44/3/870?ijkey=0a97b2358fa9abd77dcadb234ef6d58696aac00&keytype2=tf_ipsecsha

CPG3: weak for - American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) (**Grade 2C**)

<http://journal.publications.chestnet.org/article.aspx?articleID=1159534#t03>

Enclosed Reading Materials:

Maarten G.Lansberg et al *Antithrombotic and Thrombolytic Therapy for Ischemic Stroke*, 9th ed: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines. Chest. February 2012, Vol 141, No. 2_suppl: e601S–e636S.

<http://journal.publications.chestnet.org/article.aspx?articleID=1159534#t03>

1. **Chapter 26:** *How to Use a Patient Management Recommendation: Clinical Practice Guidelines and Decision Analyses*
Chapter 28.1: *Assessing the Strength of Recommendations: The GRADE Approach*
In Guyatt G, Rennie D, Meade MO, Cook DJ, Users' Guides to the Medical Literature: A Manual for Evidence-Based Clinical Practice, 3rd Edition, New York, NY: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc, 2015.
2. **Worksheet** for the critical appraisal of clinical practice guidelines.