

Report to NFOG, Applications NF 13019 and NF 13043.

The Danish Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (DSOG) invited representatives of the other Nordic societies to participate in a DSOG Guidelines Strategy Seminar 2013-10-07 to 08 in Roskilde.

DSOG has written evidence based guidelines for more than 15 years and looked for inspiration from others. Experts on evidence based medicine and guideline work were invited for the first day.

Jeremy Howick gave a distance talk from Oxford, in which he discussed that although systematic reviews (SR) of RCT's are usually the best evidence, sometimes it is insufficient due to a new generation of problems like meaningless results, lack of comparative effectiveness research, publication bias and conflict of interest.

Per Olav Vandvik from kunnskapssenteret in Oslo gave a very useful example on how to apply GRADE in a guideline process, when there are no applicable RCT's in the appropriate population.

Khalid S. Khan Editor in chief, BJOG presented the work and intention of Equator Network (Enhancing QUality and Transparency Of Health Research) and the CROWN initiative (Core Outcomes in Women's Health) from BMJ.

Niels Ulbjerg gave the history of the Danish guidelines and pointed out that the work is based on enthusiasm.

Sören Broström from Sundhedsstyrelsen presented that the new government has allocated 20 MDKR for 4 years to develop guidelines. PCOS is ongoing, dystocia is coming up. Their hope is to become a permanent EBM center.

Peter Götzsche from the Nordic Cochrane Center discussed the problems with selective reporting and publication bias.

Lisbeth Höeg-Jensen from NICE gave us insight in the process of guideline development. She compared different types of guidelines; The Danish guideline included 8-10 PICO's and took 6-8 months to complete in comparison to a NICE guideline (15-20 PICO's and 18 months) and a NICE short guideline (3-6 PICO's and 4-6 months).

The day ended with a discussion in 3 themes:

Process

Local / National / International

Conflict of Interest

We were three representatives from SFOG present during this first day; Sissel Saltvedt, Annika Strandell and Matts Olovsson. We found the lectures very inspiring for the national work we are conducting on national guidelines (SFOG riktlinjer) and also for the courses where we teach EBM. The discussion on conflict of interest will result in a direct implementation of compulsory declaration of any conflict of interest in all our reports and guidelines.

The second day was devoted to a discussion on the future format of the Danish guidelines. Annika Strandell participated as the representative from SFOG. The major themes were Structure Outline, Contents and Implementation.

We had a debate about Nordic guidelines. The prerequisites are very different for the different countries. Collaboration on different levels was discussed. Each national society will appoint a representative to work with a proposal for a framework for guideline collaboration, as decided by the NFOG board.

We welcomed the invitation to the Nordic representatives to participate in a

Sandbjerg or a Hindsø meeting to learn more about the Danish process of developing guidelines.

Annika Strandell
Scientific secretary of the SFOG board

Sissel Saltvedt
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Matts Olovsson
ARGUS, SFOG board