OVERVIEW OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

1. CHOOSE PANEL CHAIR(S)

2. CHOOSE GUIDELINE PANEL MEMBERS

3. AGREE ON THE METHODS USED AND THE PROCESS

4. DECLARE, REVIEW AND MANAGE POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

5. GENERATE CLINICAL QUESTIONS
   - IDENTIFY CLINICAL PROBLEMS REQUIRING GUIDANCE
   - GENERATE FOCUSED QUESTIONS (PICO)
   - MAKE ALL PANEL MEMBERS AGREE ON THE FINAL QUESTIONS (REFINE THEM IF NECESSARY)

6. IDENTIFY OUTCOMES CRITICAL TO EACH RECOMMENDATION
   - IDENTIFY ALL OUTCOMES IMPORTANT TO PATIENTS
   - FOR DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS DEFINE CONSEQUENCES OF BEING CLASSIFIED IN EACH OF 4 CATEGORIES (TP FP FN TN)
   - EXPLICITLY RATE IMPORTANCE OF ALL OUTCOMES

7. SYSTEMATICALLY GATHER CURRENT EVIDENCE ADDRESSING EACH OF THE QUESTIONS
   - PERFORM A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW or
   - USE EXISTING HIGH QUALITY UP-TO-DATE SYSTEMATIC REVIEW or
   - PERFORM A ‘PRAGMATIC’ SYSTEMATIC REVIEW [i.e. AS SYSTEMETIC A SEARCH AS POSSIBLE AND TRANSPARENT SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE]

8. ESTIMATE TESTING AND TREATMENT THRESHOLDS
   - IF JUSTIFIED AND NECESSARY DEFINE DISTINCT SUBPOPULATIONS WITH A DIFFERENT BASELINE RISK OF THE DISEASE (PRE-TEST PROBABILITY)

9. PREPARE SUMMARIES OF EVIDENCE TO INFORM DECISIONS ABOUT EACH QUESTION ASKED
   - FOR EACH CRITICAL OUTCOME:
     - ASSESS THE QUALITY OF THE SUPPORTING EVIDENCE
     - SUMMARISE THE EXPAANTED EFFECTS

10. DISCUSS EACH RECOMMENDATION DURING A GUIDELINE PANEL MEETING

11. FINALIZE DOCUMENT

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