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 EXPECTED EFFECTS

10. DISCUSS EACH RECOMMENDATION DURING A GUIDELINE PANEL MEETING

11. FINALIZE DOCUMENT