



Checklist for reviewers of the CARI Guidelines

Each guideline topic needs to be explicit and comprehensive. At each subheading, the reviewer should ask the question: 'Has this section been done/completed correctly?'

Please enter one of the following responses as appropriate:

- Y (Yes)
- N (No)
- ? (Unsure)
- NA (Not applicable)

Please include any comments you have about the various sections under "Comments" at the end of the checklist.

Guideline title:	
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Guidelines (Based on Level I and II evidence sources)

Y/N/?/NA

§ Is the level of evidence for the recommendation stated?	
§ Does the recommendation provided accurately reflect the RCT evidence that was reviewed?	
§ Are the recommendations practical and clinically important?	
§ Do the recommendations explore the trade-offs between benefits and harms, according to level of risk in different patient subgroups?	

Suggestions for clinical care (Based on Level III and IV evidence sources)

Y/N/?/NA

§ Have summary descriptions of relevant studies been provided? (eg cohort studies, case-control studies)	
§ Are the suggestions consistent with the evidence?	
§ Are the suggestions practical and clinically important?	
§ Has ancillary information that could be helpful to readers of the guideline been included?	

Background

Y/N/?/NA

§ Does the background address the clinical importance of the problem?	
§ Is a statement made about what is known about the condition/problem?	
§ Is a statement made about the objectives of the guideline?	
§ Is the condition to be detected, treated or prevented, clearly described?	
§ Are all important management options clearly specified?	
§ Are all outcomes (both beneficial and harmful) of the intervention clearly defined?	

Search strategy

Y/N/?/NA

§ Is the search strategy included?	
§ Have the search dates been included for each data source that was searched?	
§ Have the following data sources been searched?	
- Cochrane Library (most recent)	
- Medline (from 1966 – most recent)	
- Embase (from 1980 – most recent)	
§ Have the appropriate subject headings, key words/text words for the clinical situation and population been used?	
§ Have studies in languages other than English been included?	
§ Have all important studies known to you been identified?	
§ Was the Cochrane Collaboration search strategy to identify RCTs used?	

Evidence tables

Y/N/?/NA

§ Have summary descriptions of relevant RCTs been provided?	
§ Have key findings of each RCT been highlighted?	

What is the evidence?

Y/N/?/NA

Have the following been included and are they complete?	
§ Characteristics of included studies	
§ Quality of randomised trials	
§ Results for continuous outcomes	
§ Results for dichotomous outcomes	

Summary of the evidence

Y/N/?/NA

§ Has the evidence presented in the previous section been summarised adequately?	
§ Have draft recommendations been outlined in the text?	
§ Is the size of any effect mentioned?	
§ Has the relevance of this effect to patients been discussed?	

What do the other guidelines say?

Y/N/?/NA

§ Is there mention of other guidelines that deal with the same topic?	
§ If so, is there discussion of possible conflicts among existing guidelines and the reasons for them?	

Implementation and audit

Y/N/?/NA

§ Have possible methods been suggested for the implementation of the guideline?	
§ Have clear standards or targets been identified?	
§ Have measurable outcomes been defined that can be monitored?	

Suggestions for future research

Y/N/?/NA

§ Has the recommendation identified areas needing further study?	
§ If so, has a design been suggested to explore this topic?	
§ Can you suggest further studies that should be done?	

References

Y/N/?/NA

§ Are the references for trials mentioned in the 'What is the evidence' section listed?	
§ Are the references up-to-date and adequate? (please add any comments to the 'References' column below)	

§ Is this section complete?	
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COMMENTS:	
Guidelines:	
Suggestions for clinical care:	
Background:	
Search strategy:	
What is the evidence?	
Evidence tables:	
Summary of the evidence:	

What do the other guidelines say?	
Implementation and audit:	
Suggestions for future research:	
References:	
Appendices:	
General comments (style and readability):	

Reviewer name:	
Date:	