



### Guideline Implementation Steps



Know the Clinical Practice Guideline



Assess Current Practice Patterns in Your Setting



Compare Practice Patterns with CPG Recommendations



Identify "Gaps" in Practice



Identify "Barriers" to Closing Each Gap



Develop an "Action Plan" which Identifies Strategies to Overcome Each of the Identified Barrier



Implement the "Action Plan"



Develop a System to Monitor Practice Change



### Guidelines and Tools

<https://www.qmo.amedd.army.mil/>  
and  
<http://www.healthquality.va.gov/>



### VA/DoD Personnel Only

Order Clinical Practice Guidelines and Patient/Provider Tools on:  
DoD: <https://www.qmo.amedd.army.mil/>  
VA: <https://www.lms.va.gov/plateau/user/login.jsp>



## VA/DoD Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines



**Honoring America's Service-members and Veterans by supporting evidence-based, patient-centered care that improves their health and well-being!**

### Clinical Practice Guidelines

- Systematically developed statements to assist with practitioner and patient decisions about appropriate health care for various circumstances (Institute of Medicine, 1998)



### Guidelines -- Tools to ....

- Decrease variation
- Improve research utilization
- Prevent errors
- Promote appropriate amount of care
- Improve resource utilization
- Promote accountability
- Guide learning
- Stimulate research

### Coordination of Guidelines and Guideline Tools ....

- Facilitates continuity of care across systems for patients and providers
- Secures unity of effort
- Improves provider and customer satisfaction
- Decreases development costs

## **The VA/DoD Evidence-Based Practice Working Group - A Health Executive Council (HEC) Working Group...**

- Adapting, developing, and updating evidence-based clinical practice guidelines.
- Facilitating on-going implementation of evidence-based clinical advances into practice.
- Championing the integration of evidence-based clinical practice into current and developing information systems.
- Fostering integration of evidence-based practice into VA/DoD initiatives related to health promotion, disease prevention, and wellness initiatives.
- Assessing the effectiveness of implementation and making recommendations to maximize performance improvement.
- Identifying opportunities and making recommendations for research related to evidence-based practice within VA/DoD.

## **Current Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs):**

- **Chronic Disease (in Primary Care)**
  - Asthma
  - Chronic Heart Failure
  - Chronic Kidney Disease
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
  - Diabetes Mellitus
  - Dyslipidemia
  - Hypertension
  - Ischemic Heart Disease
  - Obesity and Overweight
  - Tobacco Use
- **Mental Health**
  - Bipolar Disorder in Adults
  - Major Depressive Disorder
  - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
  - Substance Use Disorder



## **Current Clinical Practice Guidelines (continued):**

- **Pain**
  - Opioid Therapy for Chronic Pain
  - Lower Back Pain
  - Post-Operative Pain
- **Rehabilitation**
  - Concussion-mTBI
  - Lower Limb Amputation
  - Stroke Rehabilitation
- **Military Unique**
  - Medically Unexplained Symptoms
  - Post-Deployment Health
- **Women's Health**
  - Pregnancy



## **Get educated about CPGs!**

- On-line continuing education about CPGs is available

## **Get Involved in CPG Development!**

- Clinicians can impact the CPG development process through:
  - *Proposal* of a CPG topic
  - *Input* into the CPG review process
  - *Feedback* regarding existing CPGs

## **Get Involved in CPG Implementation At Your Clinic or Facility!**

- **General information** on CPG implementation for
  - **Clinical Leaders**
  - **Team Members**

is contained in the RAND Manual "Putting CPGs to Work in the DoD Medical System" and the "Putting CPGs to Work in the VHA"

- **Implementation tools** available for:
  - **Patients** (brochures, booklets, videos)
  - **Providers** (CPG summaries, pocket cards, presentations, and ce)