



**EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS**  
IRELAND



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# GRADE Workshop

## Online – 5 days

### Background

GRADE (Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation) is used by over 100 international organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), Cochrane, American Society of Haematology and others to produce rigorous and transparent clinical practice guidelines and other healthcare recommendations.

GRADE is a standardised and transparent approach to assessing the certainty of evidence and the strength of healthcare recommendations. The approach provides a manageable system that integrates all important aspects. The GRADE approach was developed by the multidisciplinary GRADE working group.

More information on GRADE can be found at:  
<http://de.gradeworkinggroup.org>

### Aim

To lead course participants through the complete process of guideline development with GRADE using a concrete example: starting with the selection of a relevant PICO question and ending with the formulation of a recommendation. The GRADEpro GDT software is used for this purpose. The thematic focus is on assessing the certainty of the underlying evidence as well as the strength of the recommendation. In lectures, we introduce GRADE and explain its use with examples.

### Date/Time:

**20th, 21st, 26th, 27th  
& 28th October**  
**10:00 – 13:30**

### Skill level:

**Introductory**

### Prerequisites:

**Attendees should have knowledge in conducting and/or using systematic reviews as well as the basic principles of evidence-based healthcare, and the critical appraisal of research studies, especially RCTs**

### Places:

**24**

### Fee:

**€250 (General)**  
**€180 (Early Bird)**  
**€150 (Student)**

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### Learning outcomes

In this course participants will be enabled to:

- Understand the basic principles of the GRADE approach and be able to comprehend the individual steps in the assessment of the evidence and their impact on the strength of the recommendation
- Be able to create an evidence profile for a therapeutic intervention based on a systematic review
- Have a basic understanding of the GRADE Software

### Target Audience

Systematic review authors, guideline developers, health and social care professionals, academics, researchers, postgraduate students, decision makers, Evidence Synthesis Ireland Fellows and other professionals.

### Teaching strategies

The workshop will consist of a mixture of presentations and exercises in small groups.

### Facilitators:

#### **Ingrid Toews**

Research associate

Institute for Evidence in Medicine,  
University Medical Center, Freiburg,  
Germany

#### **Dr Chris Noone**

Lecturer at NUI Galway School of  
Psychology & ESI Research  
Associate  
NUI Galway

#### **Dr Nuala Livingstone**

Associate Editor, Cochrane  
Editorial and Methods  
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## Course content/timetable

Day 1 - 20th October	
Pre-learning: tbc	
10:00	Join the meeting online
10:15	Welcome, introduction of presenters
10:30	<b>Presentation:</b> Evidence-based healthcare
11:15	<b>Presentation:</b> What is GRADE? An overview
12:00	Break
12:15	<b>Introduction to small group exercise and practical exercise 1 in small groups:</b> Set PICO and outcomes
13:00	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 1
13:30	Close
Day 2 - 21st October	
Pre-learning: tbc	
10:00	Join the meeting online
10:15	Welcome and recap and questions on previous presentations and exercise
10:30	<b>Presentation:</b> Certainty of evidence – downgrade
11:30	<b>Presentation:</b> Certainty of evidence – upgrading and Summary of Findings-tables
12:15	Break
12:30	<b>Interactive presentation:</b> Introduction to GRADEpro GDT (GRADE software)
13:30	Close

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# GRADE Workshop

## Online – 5 days

### Course content/timetable

Day 3 - 26th October	
Pre-learning: tbc	
10:00	Join the meeting online
10:15	Recap and questions on previous (interactive) presentations
10:30	<b>Practical exercise 2 in small groups:</b> Assessing the certainty of the evidence (Methodological limitations)
11:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 2
12:00	Break
12:15	<b>Practical exercise 3 in small groups:</b> Assessing the certainty of the evidence (Inconsistency)
13:00	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 3
13:30	Close
Day 4 - 27th October	
Pre-learning: tbc	
10:00	Join the meeting online
10:15	Recap and questions on previous exercises
10:30	<b>Practical exercise 4 in small groups:</b> Assessing the certainty of evidence (Indirectness)
11:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 4
12:00	Break
12:15	<b>Practical exercise 5 in small groups:</b> Assessing the certainty of evidence (Imprecision)
13:00	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 5
13:30	Close

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# GRADE Workshop Online – 5 days

## Course content/timetable

Day 5 - 28th October	
Pre-learning: tbc	
10:00	Join the meeting online
10:15	Presentation: Formulation of recommendations
11:00	Small group exercise 6: Developing and formulating recommendations (Evidence to decision)
12:15	Break
12:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 5 and conclusions
13:30	Close

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