



EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS
IRELAND



Cochrane
Ireland



GRADE Workshop (In-Person)

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:

28th & 29th April 2025
10:00 – 16:00

Location:

The National
University of Ireland,
Merrion Square, Dublin

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:

25

Fee:

€250 (General)
€140 (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:

Prof. Declan Devane

Professor of Health
Research Methodology,
University of Galway
Director, Evidence
Synthesis Ireland
Director, Cochrane Ireland

Philipp Kapp

Researcher
Institute for Evidence in
Medicine (for Cochrane Germany
Foundation), Medical Centre -
University of Freiburg, Faculty of
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Dr K.M. Saif-Ur-Rahman

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Research Fellow
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Course content

Day 1	
10:00	Welcome, introduction of presenters
10:15	Presentation: What is GRADE? An overview
10:45	Practical exercise 1 in small groups: Set PICO and outcomes
11:15	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 1
11:30	Break
11:45	Presentation: Certainty of evidence – Downgrading
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Interactive presentation: Introduction to GRADEpro GDT (GRADE software)
14:30	Practical exercise 2 in small groups: Assessing the certainty of the evidence (Methodological limitations)
15:15	Break
15:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 2
15:45	Wrap up and summary of Day 1
16:00	Close

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Course content

Day 2	
10:00	Welcome and recap and questions on previous presentations and exercise
10:30	Practical exercise 3 in small groups: Assessing the certainty of the evidence (Inconsistency)
11:15	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 3
11:30	Break
11:45	Practical exercise 4 in small groups: Assessing the certainty of evidence (Indirectness)
12:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 4
12:45	Lunch
13:45	Practical exercise 5 and 6 in small groups: Assessing the certainty of evidence (Imprecision and publication bias)
14:30	Presentation and discussion of small group exercise 5 and 6
14:45	Presentation: Certainty of evidence – upgrading
15:00	Break
15:15	Presentation: Creating the final Summary of Findings tables
15:30	Wrap up and summary of Day 2
16:00	Close

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