

# HOW AN AORN GUIDELINE IS CREATED

AORN's Guidelines are the official, evidence-based recommendations for perioperative practice.



## WHO MAKES UP THE GUIDELINES ADVISORY BOARD?

The Guidelines Advisory Board is composed of a chairperson(s), at least eight perioperative nurse members, and liaisons from other professional associations.

## STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

### STEP 1

#### LITERATURE SEARCH

The search is defined by:



Keywords



Time Frame



English Only



Other

### STEP 2

#### LEVEL & QUALITY OF EACH PIECE OF EVIDENCE IS APPRAISED

- The strength and quality of each article using AORN's evidence appraisal tools is measured.
- Types of evidence:
  - Research
  - Non-Research
- An appraisal score is assigned: I-V, and A, B, or C.
- Very low levels of evidence are not accepted.



### STEP 3

## THE RESEARCH IS TRANSLATED INTO RECOMMENDATIONS

### STEP 4

#### THE GUIDELINE'S REQUIRED ELEMENTS ARE CONFIRMED

- Introduction
- Purpose
- Evidence Review
- Recommendation [Rating]
  - Activity [Rating]
- Glossary
- References



### STEP 5

#### EACH RECOMMENDATION IS RATED USING AORN'S EVIDENCE RATING MODEL

REGULATORY REQUIREMENT

RECOMMENDATION

CONDITIONAL RECOMMENDATION

NO RECOMMENDATION

### STEP 6

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE REVIEWED

- The draft guideline is posted on the AORN website for a 30-day public comment period.
- All submitted comments are reviewed and action is taken on each comment including
  - Accept,
  - Accept with modification, or
  - Not accept
- The draft is amended in collaboration with the Editor-in-Chief.



### STEP 7

#### THE GUIDELINE'S FINAL DRAFT IS SUBMITTED TO THE GUIDELINES ADVISORY BOARD FOR APPROVAL



### STEP 8

## THE GUIDELINE IS PUBLISHED



Learn more about AORN's Guidelines for Perioperative Practice at [aorn.org/Guidelines](http://aorn.org/Guidelines).