

HOW AN AORN GUIDELINE IS CREATED

AORN's Guidelines are the official, evidence-based position on questions regarding perioperative practice.



WHO MAKES UP THE GUIDELINES ADVISORY BOARD?

The Guidelines Advisory Board is composed of a chairperson, 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-IV, A, B, or C.
- Very low levels of evidence are discarded.



STEP 3

THE RESEARCH IS TRANSLATED INTO RECOMMENDATIONS

STEP 4

THE GUIDELINE'S REQUIRED ELEMENTS ARE CONFIRMED

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



STEP 5

EACH RECOMMENDATION IS RATED USING AORN'S EVIDENCE RATING MODEL

STRONG EVIDENCE

REGULATORY REQUIREMENT

LIMITED EVIDENCE

BENEFITS OUTWEIGH HARMS

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:
 - Accept
 - Accept with modification
 - Reject
- The draft is amended as deemed appropriate 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.