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

HOW AN AORN GUIDELINE IS CREATED

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

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
  - 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 Guidelines for Perioperative Practice at aorn.org/Guidelines.