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 definitley.

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.

• Evidences are classified:
  - Research
  - Non-Research

• An appraisal score is assigned: 1=St, 2, 3=St, or 4.

• 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
• 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.