

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario – Best Practice Guidelines Program
A Proactive Approach to Bladder and Bowel Management in Adults, Fourth Edition
December 2020

1. Structured Website Search

Two guideline development methodologists searched an established list of websites for guidelines.

Guidelines were selected based on the following criteria:

- Focus on the topic of incontinence and constipation for adults (18 years and older) (search terms included: incontinence, constipation, bladder/bowel management)
- Published in English
- Available and accessible for retrieval
- Developed based on a systematic search of the literature
- Published no earlier than 2013
- Relevant to nursing scope of practice
- Applicable to the Canadian context (e.g., studies in countries with similar culture and economic status/developed nations such as OECD countries
<http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/>)

Websites searched:

- National Guideline Clearinghouse (NGC)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) (UK): Evidence Services
- Canadian Medical Association Infobase: Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)
- National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC): Clinical Practice Guidelines
- eGuidelines
- Guidelines International Network (GIN)

A broad search on Google search engine was also conducted using search terms: incontinence guidelines and bowel management guidelines.

2. Hand Search

RNAO expert panel members were asked to review personal libraries to identify and submit potentially relevant guidelines. Guidelines submitted for consideration by RNAO expert panel members were integrated into the retrieved list of guidelines if they had not been identified by the online guideline search and if they met the inclusion criteria.