

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
Transitions in Care and Services, Second Edition
June 2023

Search Strategy for Guidelines and Standards

1. Structured Website Search

Two guideline development methodologists searched an established list of websites for guidelines and standards. Guidelines and standards were selected based on the following criteria:

- Guideline or standard in English
- Available and accessible for retrieval
- Dated no earlier than January 2012
- Relevant to nursing practice
- Applicable to the Canadian context (e.g. studies in countries with similar culture and economic status/developed nations such as OECD countries
<https://www.oecd.org/about/document/ratification-oecd-convention.htm>)
- Focused on the topic area (transitions in care and services for pediatric or adult persons)
- If the document was a guideline, it was:
 - Developed based on a systematic search of the literature
 - Contained a description of how the recommendations were developed
 - Included the word guideline or recommendation in the title or description

Websites searched:

- Trip medical database
- The Physiotherapy Evidence Database (PEDro)
- Occupational Therapy Systematic Evaluation of Evidence (OTseeker)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)
- CPG Infobase: Clinical Practice Guideline Database
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)
- National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC): Clinical Practice Guidelines
- eGuidelines Plus
- Guidelines International Network (GIN)
- Joint Commission International
- Canadian Stroke Network
- Canadian Cardiovascular Society
- The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (PALTC)
- Ontario Health
- Health Standards Organization (HSO)
- College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO)
- Ontario Hospital Association (OHA)
- Google and Google Scholar

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 are integrated into the retrieved list of guidelines if they have not been identified by the online guideline search. For this BPG, there were no relevant guidelines submitted by the expert panel.