RNAO’s internationally acclaimed evidence-based Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) Program influences nurses and other health professionals’ clinical, education, administration, research, and policy practices all over the world, shaping the health and well-being of the people they serve. Locally and globally, our work has inspired a science shift in staff engagement, interprofessional care, and clinical excellence. RNAO works with its partners and collaborators to deliver the best evidence-based and person-centred care every time and everywhere. We are unswerving in our conviction that members of the public must always be the real winners of this awesome program!

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The best practice guidelines (BPG) development process involves a rigorous methodology, including:
- systematic literature review identifying the best and most current evidence
- selection of an expert panel of nurses, other health professionals, and patient/public representatives to develop clinical, organizational, educational and system level recommendations derived from the evidence
- systematic guideline implementation and dissemination

All guidelines are reviewed every five years to assess the currency of the evidence and recommendations. These guidelines are a result of the full guideline development process and are published as new editions.

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The Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) development process involves a rigorous methodology, including:

- Identification of the BPG topic, specific purpose and scope of the guideline
- Systematic literature review identifying the best and most current evidence
- Selection of an expert panel of nurses, other health professionals, and patient/public representatives

DEVELOPMENT

- Evidence-based recommendations derived from the evidence
- Reflects guidelines national standards of care to the guideline
- The publication of the full guideline

All guidelines are reviewed every five years to assess the currency of the evidence and recommendations. The guidelines are revised if necessary to reflect new evidence and updated recommendations. The cycle of the full guideline development process and are published as new editions.

BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINE DISSEMINATION, IMPLEMENTATION & SUSTAINABILITY

The program focuses on individual, organizational, and system-level strategies to ensure effective, sustainable, and scalable implementation of best practice guidelines in clinical and management practices.

Best Practice Champions Network

The Best Practice Champions Network was established in 2012. It consists of thousands of nurses and other health professionals, who work to implement evidence-based recommendations and standards of care to improve patient outcomes. These champions are dedicated practitioners who are aware of BPGs, understand and disseminate the recommendations, and lead and mobilize peers.

Best Practice Spotlight Organizations

Best Practice Spotlight Organizations (BPSOs) are organized for health professionals, organizations, and systems to take ownership of the full BPG Program, and drive evidence-based nursing practice change. RNAO identifies the BPSOs, their champions, and champions’ projects to support evidence-based practice change in their organizations.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

RNAO is actively engaged with national and international partners. We welcome opportunities to collaborate in building a strong nursing community to optimize health outcomes for everyone and everywhere.

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The program enables organizations and health systems to focus on patient care and clinical excellence, using the latest research to inform practice and optimize outcomes. The BPG Program has helped advance health care delivery, as well as patient, provider, organizational, and health system outcomes. It is recognized worldwide and has established partnerships with national and international organizations. The program is aligned with the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) and contributes to the Global Safe Systems of Care Initiative. RNAO is actively engaged with provincial, national, and international partners. We welcome opportunities to collaborate in building a strong nursing community to optimize health outcomes for everyone and everywhere.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

RNAO is strongly engaged with national, provincial, and international organizations. RNAO supports BPSOs to make effective and sustainable practice improvements by providing consultation, quality improvement tools, and evidence-based nursing care processes and resulting clinical outcomes. With NQuIRE data, BPSOs are able to track practice, implementation, and outcomes, and demonstrate creative strategies to successfully implement RNAO’s BPGs at the practitioner and organization level. The program enables organizations and health systems to focus on patient care and clinical excellence, using the latest research to inform practice and optimize outcomes. The BPG Program has helped advance health care delivery, as well as patient, provider, organizational, and health system outcomes. RNAO is actively engaged with provincial, national, and international partners. We welcome opportunities to collaborate in building a strong nursing community to optimize health outcomes for everyone and everywhere.

RNAO’s Nursing Quality Indicators for Reporting and Evaluation (NQuIRE) is a framework designed to support systematic guideline implementation through NQuIRE. The framework enables organizations and health systems to focus on patient care and clinical excellence, using the latest research to inform practice and optimize outcomes. The BPG Program has helped advance health care delivery, as well as patient, provider, organizational, and health system outcomes. RNAO is actively engaged with provincial, national, and international partners. We welcome opportunities to collaborate in building a strong nursing community to optimize health outcomes for everyone and everywhere.

BPSO Terms and Conditions

The Best Practice Spotlight Organizations (BPSO) designation is achieved through a formal application and agreement with RNAO. The three-year BPSO designation requires commitment to developing and implementing evidence-based guidelines, managing quality improvement, and promoting guideline dissemination and uptake. RNAO provides guidance and support throughout the three-year period. Following this period, the partnership is renewed biennially. The goal of the BPSO designation is to support understanding, and influence their uptake among workplace peers.

BPSOs are passionate about evidence-informed practice and improving people’s care and outcomes. Thousands of nurses and other health professionals in all roles and health sectors, who are passionate about evidence-informed practice and improving people’s care and outcomes.

The Best Practice Champions Network was established in 2002. It consists of clinical and management leaders who provide evidence-based BPG implementations, evaluation, and the resulting nurse, patient, organizational and health system outcomes.

There are two BPSO models to consider for organizations interested in applying to become a BPSO.

The BPSO Direct Model: Best suited for single organizations who want the opportunity to engage in the three-year partnership. Organizations that apply with RNAO to meet the BPSO implementation standards. In Ontario, organizations that are part of this program are RNAO Direct.

The BPSO Host Model: Best suited for organizations that have the capacity to run, on behalf of RNAO, the full BPSO designation program for a group of health and/or academic organizations. BPSO Hosts are independent organizations that will be responsible for running the designated program across the three-year period. Following this period, the partnership is renewed biennially. The goal of the BPSO designation is to support understanding, and influence their uptake among workplace peers.

BPSO Hosts and BPSO Direct Organizations, outside of Ontario, are fully supported by RNAO with methodology, materials and ongoing mentorship; but do not receive any funding from RNAO.

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RNAO is a non-profit organization registered in the province of Ontario that is dedicated to advancing evidence-informed practice and improving people’s health outcomes. RNAO is actively engaged with provincial, national, and international partners. We welcome opportunities to collaborate in building a strong nursing community to optimize health outcomes for everyone and everywhere.

International Classification for Nursing Practice Research & Development Centre - ICNP® Research & Development Centre

RNAO is an accredited ICNP® Research & Development Centre, one of only 13 in the world, and the first in North America. The designation recognizes RNAO’s ongoing contribution to ICNP® and Safe System of Care research and development. RNAO’s ICNP® Program research, development, and implementation of evidence-based nursing care policy, practice, and outcomes.

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The Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario (RNAO) is the professional association representing registered nurses, nurse practitioners and nursing students in Ontario. Since 1925, RNAO has advocated for healthy public policy, promoted excellence in nursing practice, increased nurses’ contribution to shaping the health-care system, and influenced decisions that affect nurses and the public they serve.