



Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario



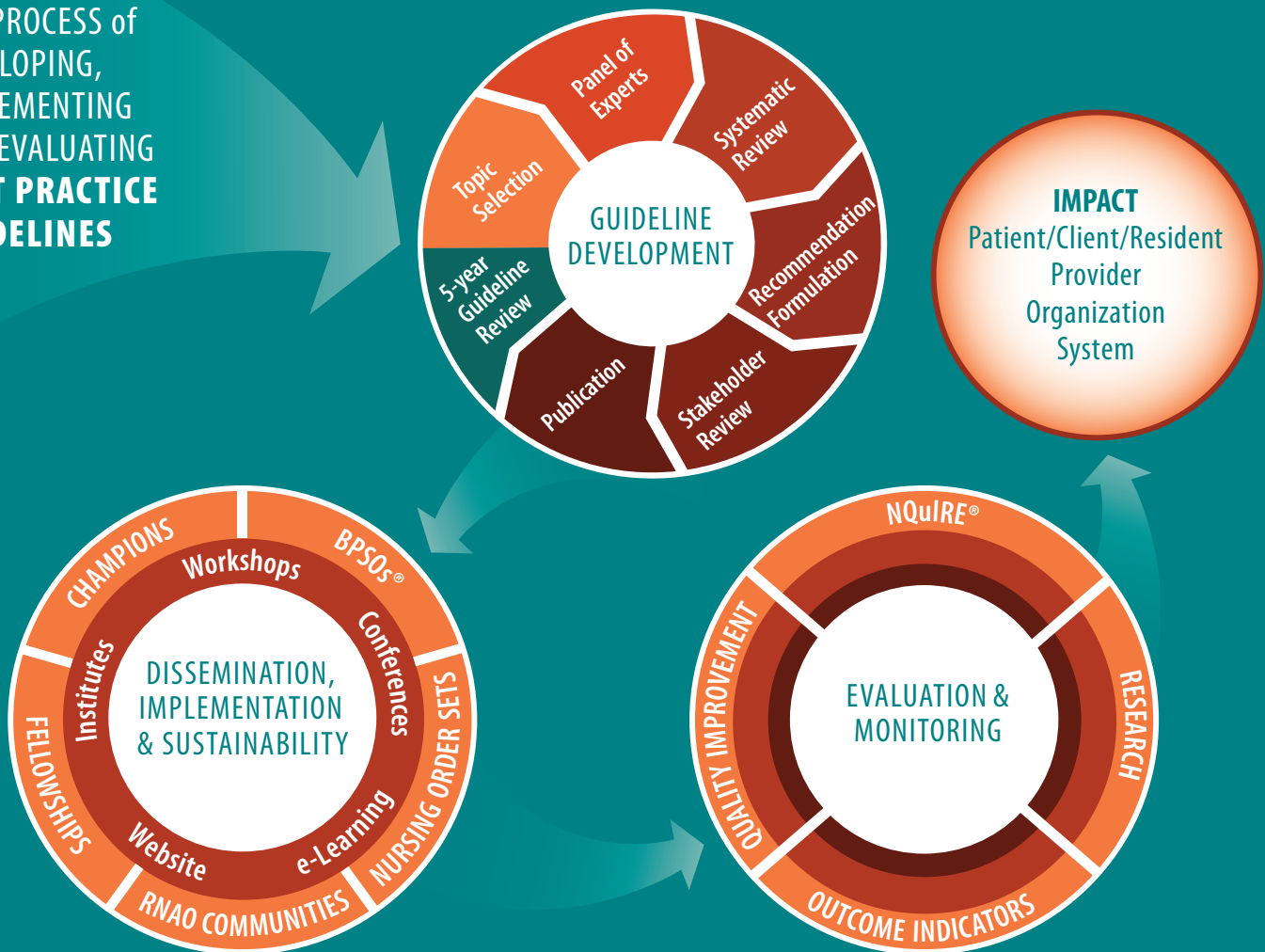
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS &
BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES

RNAO Best Practice Guidelines Program

TRANSFORMING
NURSING
through
KNOWLEDGE

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.

THE PROCESS of
DEVELOPING,
IMPLEMENTING
AND EVALUATING
**BEST PRACTICE
GUIDELINES**



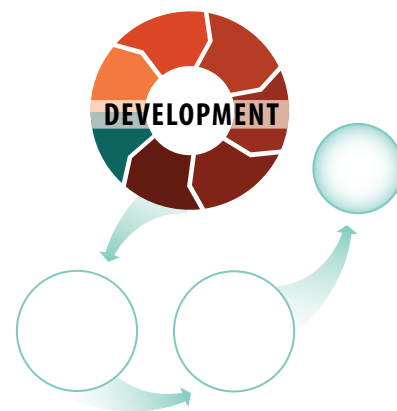
The Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) Program was launched by the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) in 1999. Funded by MOHLTC and reporting to it, the program attracted from its inception broad provincial interest in the then emerging field of guideline development. Today, the Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) Program is an Ontario flagship of excellence on both the national and international stage and takes a leadership role in BPG development, implementation science and practice, and clinical and healthy work environment evaluation. 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 government priorities, as well as patient, provider, organizational, and health system outcomes. It is recognized the world over for its rigorous guideline development, transformational approaches that are contributing to implementation science, and robust evaluation methodology.

BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT

The best practice guideline (BPG) development process involves a rigorous methodology, including:

- identification of the BPG topic, specific purpose, and scoping 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 to develop clinical, organizational, educational and system level recommendations derived from the evidence
- input from guideline-specific external stakeholders of interest to refine the guideline
- publication of the final guideline

All guidelines are reviewed every five years to assess the currency of the evidence and recommendations. Those guidelines selected for updating undergo 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, sustained, and scalable implementation of best practice guidelines in clinical and management practices.

Best Practice Champions Network[®]

The Best Practice Champions Network was established in 2002. It consists of 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 health. These champions are dedicated practitioners who raise awareness of BPGs, support understanding, and influence their uptake among workplace peers.

Best Practice Spotlight Organizations[®]

Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) designation is an opportunity for health and academic organizations to formally partner with RNAO over a three-year period. Following this period, the partnership is renewed biennially. The goal of the partnership is to create evidence-based practice cultures through systematic implementation of multiple RNAO BPGs.

BPSO designates:

- establish dynamic, long-term partnerships that focus on making an impact on people's care, organizational performance and health system outcomes by facilitating and advancing evidence-based practice among nurses and other health professionals



- demonstrate creative strategies to successfully implement RNAO's BPGs at the practitioner and organizational level
- evaluate the impact of BPG implementation through NQuIRE® (*Nursing Quality Indicators for Reporting and Evaluation*), RNAO's data system of nursing quality indicators inclusive of structure, process and outcome indicators
- mobilize effective strategies for system-wide dissemination of BPG implementation and outcomes

BPSO designation is achieved through a formal application and agreement with RNAO. *BPSO Terms and Conditions* stipulate engagement in:

- systematic guideline implementation within an infrastructure of support
- regular reporting and monitoring
- knowledge exchange sessions with peer BPSOs
- sustainability, spreading, scaling-up and scaling-out plan
- outcomes measurement through NQuIRE

After the three-year partnership successful organizations are awarded the BPSO designation, and agree to:

- sustained, spread, scale-up and scale-out of BPG-based practice
- ongoing evaluation through NQuIRE
- dissemination of their BPSO work and outcomes; and mentoring of new BPSOs

Nursing Order Sets

RNAO's Nursing Order Sets are evidence-based interventions and clinical decision support resources derived from RNAO's clinical BPGs. They enable the integration of the best available evidence into daily clinical practice using technology to facilitate access at the point-of-care. Nursing Order Sets support the evaluation of BPG implementation by providing a mechanism to link specific interventions to corresponding evidence-based NQuIRE indicators. Each intervention statement is aligned with the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) terminology language to support the standardized collection and exchange of nursing information globally.

Best Practice Guideline Institutes

RNAO delivers, locally and internationally, week-long institutes that focus on guideline implementation and evaluation. To date there are 10 different institutes, including two that provide foundational and advanced knowledge about using RNAO BPGs to create evidence-based cultures; and eight that focus on specific clinical topics such as wound care, mental health, and chronic disease prevention and management.

BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINE EVALUATION & MONITORING

The BPG Program evaluates - through NQuIRE - the process of guideline implementation, and the resulting nurse, patient, organizational and health system outcomes.

NQuIRE: Nursing Quality Indicators for Reporting and Evaluation®

NQuIRE consists of: a database; an online data-entry system; a data dictionary, including a set of organization-level structural indicators as well as a set of process and outcome indicators for each BPG; and data collection and reporting processes. Through NQuIRE, RNAO collects, analyzes and reports quality indicator data submitted by health-care service and academic organizations participating in the BPSO designation program.



NQuIRE supports BPSOs to make effective and sustained practice improvements by providing organizational and comparative data on BPG-directed nursing care processes and resulting clinical outcomes. With NQuIRE data, BPSOs are able to track their progress, identify areas for improvement, highlight areas for further investment, and advance quality improvement to optimize clinical, organizational, and health system outcomes.

By monitoring, evaluating and reporting quality improvements in nursing care across the globe, NQuIRE is producing BPSO-validated and endorsed quality indicators that will contribute to sustainability, and enhance understanding of the full impact of evidence-based nursing practice on health-care quality and health outcomes.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

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 R & D Centre)

RNAO is an accredited ICNP R & D Centre, one of only 13 in the world, and the first in North America. The accreditation recognizes RNAO's ongoing contribution to ICN's eHealth Program through the development of ICNP codes derived from RNAO's Nursing Order Sets and BPG outcome measures.

BPSO Models

RNAO has hundreds of BPSO organizations provincially, nationally and internationally. 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 wishing to apply to RNAO to engage in the three-year partnership. These organizations work directly with RNAO to meet the BPSO requirements designation. In Ontario, health organizations that are part of this program are BPSO 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 settings within a country, region or community. In this model, the BPSO Host enters into a formal agreement with RNAO to deliver and oversee the RNAO BPSO designation in the country or region where it is located. The BPSO Host is responsible for selecting their BPSO Direct organizations; providing orientation, education and support; monitoring progress; and evaluating outcomes. The BPSO Host submits regular reports to RNAO. The BPSO Host acts as the liaison between RNAO and the BPSOs in the specific country, region, or community - ensuring full consistency and systematic deployment of all aspects of the RNAO BPG Program, including: guideline implementation, evaluation, sustainability, spread, scaling-up and scaling-out.

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.





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 - impacting the health and lives of the people they serve. Locally and globally, our work has inspired a seismic shift in staff engagement, interprofessional care, and clinical excellence. RNAO with its partners and collaborators are determined to deliver the best evidence-based and person-centred care every time and everywhere. We are unwavering in our conviction that members of the public must always be the real winners of this awesome program!

Doris Grinspun, RN, MSN, PhD, LLD(hon), O.ONT, RNAO CEO



The RNAO International Affairs & Best Practice Guidelines Centre is proud to be recognized as a world leader for its evidence-based best practice work. Our rigorous guideline development is at the core of our success. This, alongside our revolutionary implementation methodology - focused on cutting-edge science, organizational engagement, and technology enabled tools - is mobilizing rapid and sustained practice changes. RNAO thanks the thousands of nurses, other health professionals, patients, representatives of civil society groups, and governments, for partnering to achieve better health outcomes. Together, we are transforming nursing and health care through knowledge.

Irmajean Bajnok, RN, MScN, PhD, Director, RNAO IABPG Program



The government of Ontario is proud to support the Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) Program. Recognized provincially, nationally and internationally, this program builds on the knowledge, skills, compassion and expertise of nurses and makes a major contribution to nursing practices and patient outcomes. The BPG Program is a shining example of excellence in our health-care system.

Hon Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

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