

the ENGINE

The newsletter of the Guidelines International Network

Contents

Chairs report	3
Conference update – G-I-N 2016	4
Regional Communities & Working Group updates	6
Other news from around the network	7
Important dates	11
Watch for the next issue	12
Feedback	12



Editorial

Dear G-I-N members,

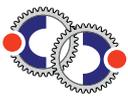
I am delighted to provide you with some fresh news about our network. Included in this edition of enGINE is the Chair's report with an update about the Board meeting of 14-15 March at the KCE offices in Brussels, while Amir Qaseem provides us with the latest news about the G-I-N 2016 conference in Philadelphia.

Several Regional Communities and Working Groups provided an update about their activities, and I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their engagement. For more information on each Community or Group, please click through to our [website](#).

To receive more timely news about what is happening in our network, please remember to follow us on Twitter ([@gin_member](#)) and/or to become a member of our [LinkedIn Forum](#).

Joan Vlayen

Editor



Quality and trustworthiness of clinical practice guidelines in Italy: G-I-N endorses the study of GIMBE Foundation

In Italy the development and use of clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) are limited. The National Guidelines System – Sistema Nazionale Linee Guida (SNLG) – launched at the end of the '90s, was interrupted due to lack of funding.

The Italian Parliament is currently going to approve a law which will link medical responsibility and CPGs developed “only” by medical societies registered in a Ministry of Health’s list. The risk of a proliferation of low quality guidelines is very high, as in Italy there are several hundreds of medical societies. For example, nowadays there are 47 Italian obstetrical and gynecological societies and their number has quadrupled in the last 35 years, increasing at a mean rate of one additional society per year. Additionally, transparency of medical societies regarding financial issues and competing interests is almost non-existent.

GIMBE Foundation - founding member of G-I-N - has published and disseminated at every level of the Italian NHS the G-I-N guidelines as the gold standard for the development of CPGs and for disclosure and management of conflicts of interest. GIMBE Foundation has also been convened to Italian Parliament to express its position and underline critical issues of the text of the law under discussion.

Finally, in order to build an evidence base of the quality and trustworthiness of CPGs currently developed in Italy, GIMBE has

recently assigned the “Gioacchino Cartabellotta” scholarship to Antonio Simone Laganà (University of Messina) to conduct a survey to verify if CPGs developed by Italian organisations match both G-I-N standards. The study will be conducted with the endorsement of G-I-N and Italian National Institute of Health.



Nino Cartabellotta, MD, President GIMBE Foundation

References

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- ⁴ <http://www.gimbe.org/pagine/1112/it/art-5-ddl-resp-professionale>
- ⁵ Assegnazione della borsa di studio “Gioacchino Cartabellotta” 2016. Available at: www.gimbe.org/conferenze/nazionale/2016/relazioni/pomeriggio/00B.Borsa_Gioacchino_Cartabellotta_2016_PRO.pdf. Last visit: 4th April 2016