

<p><b>Aims and objectives:</b></p>	<p><b>Course Title - <u>Introduction to Evidence for Guidelines</u></b></p> <p>To provide basic knowledge and practical experience in searching to support the development of clinical guidelines. By the end of the course participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand the importance of literature searching in guideline development</li> <li>• learn how to formulate a search question and develop a simple literature search strategy</li> <li>• be familiar with the methods and challenges of literature searching for clinical guideline development at NICE</li> </ul> <p>To provide basic knowledge of how to critically appraise studies to support the development of clinical guidelines. By the end of the course participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand the importance of critical appraisal in guideline development</li> <li>• learn how to appraise a systematic review study*</li> <li>• learn how to appraise a randomised controlled trial*</li> </ul> <p>*SIGN critical appraisal checklists will be used for the study appraisals</p>
	<p>This course will provide an opportunity for those who work with guidelines in health and care to better understand the primary activity in guideline development – that is to effectively search for and appraise the evidence base. This relates to the mission of G-I-N: to help its members to create high quality clinical practice guidelines that foster safe and effective patient care.</p>
<p>Detailed programme and timetable, including overall length of course</p>	<p>Summary: See below for timetable.</p> <p>Course in two parts:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning session literature searching</li> <li>• Afternoon session critical appraisal</li> </ul>
<p>Target audience</p>	<p>Beginners or those new to guideline development. This course will benefit those who are involved in guideline development and would like to increase their knowledge and gain a greater understand of the searching and appraisal methods and processes used when developing clinical guidelines.</p>

## **Timetable**

### Introduction to Evidence for Guidelines

Systematic literature searches are conducted by information specialists on a range of bibliographic databases to identify published research for evidence-based products such as guidelines and systematic reviews.

This course will cover the importance of systematic searching when producing clinical guidelines, the methods used at NICE, and the challenges involved when updating guidelines.

9.00 -9.15 Introductions and learning objectives

9.15- 11.00- Introduction to literature searching

- Presentations
- Practical session/ Group work
- Discussion

11.00 – 11.15 - Coffee

11.15 – 12.00 Challenges and methods of searching

- Presentation
- Discussion
- Summary

12.00-13.00 – Lunch

13.00-13.15 Introduction to critical appraisal

13.15-14.30 Critical appraisal of systematic reviews

- Presentation
- Practical session/ Group work
- Discussion

1430-1500 - Critical appraisal of RCTs

- Presentation

15.00-15.15 Coffee

1515-1545 Critical appraisal of RCTs

- Practical session/ Group work
- Discussion

15.45 –16.00 Wrap up

## **Facilitator Bios**

### **Nicola Walsh**

Nicola is a Senior Information Manager at the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). Her current role involves managing specialist information support to underpin the development of evidence-based guidance at NICE. Nicola has previously designed and delivered information skills training courses for health care professionals and has extensive experience in literature searching. She is currently involved in a project to improve the specificity of the methodological search filters used at NICE in the guideline updates programme.

### **Jenny Kendrick**

Jenny joined the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in January 2008 as an Assistant Information Specialist. Her current role is an Information Specialist within the Guidance Information Services team providing specialist information support which

underpins the development of evidence-based guidance products at NICE. Jenny has previously been involved in projects looking at the comparison of searching the Cochrane library database via three different search interfaces. More recently she is involved in a project with the aim to adopt or develop validated Medline and EMBASE search filters which are routinely used at NICE by the Centre for Guidelines Update programme. Jenny will be focusing on the health economics and quality of life filters.

### **Lynne Smith**

Lynne joined the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) in January 2008 as an Information Officer. Her current role as Evidence and Information Scientist involves providing evidence reviews to support the development of SIGN guidelines. This includes both searching and critical appraisal tasks. Lynne has previously been involved in an MRC project looking at the performance of methodological search filters. While working on SIGN guidelines Lynne has been responsible for providing training for guideline group members on critical appraisal.