



SAVE THE DATE

SAGE Guidelines Summit 2016

The team of the South African Guidelines Excellence Project will host a Guidelines Summit in 2016. The purpose of the meeting will be to facilitate dialogue between various stakeholders across the public and private sectors in guideline work including development, implementation and use, and research in South Africa.

- Date:** 24 February 2016
Venue: Conference Centre, South African Medical Research Council,
Francie van Zijl Drive, Cape Town
RSVP: By 20 January 2016 to SAGE@mrc.ac.za

International Keynote Speaker: Prof. Holger Schünemann will present on the topic:

Guidelines 2.0: Global standards for trustworthy development and implementation of health care recommendations



Holger J. Schünemann, MD, PhD, MSc, FRCP(C)

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Dr Schünemann is chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University, widely considered the birthplace of evidence-based medicine. He trained in internal medicine, epidemiology, preventive medicine and public health. Having contributed to over [400 peer-reviewed publications](#) (across a broad area of healthcare questions) he is co-chair of the GRADE working group, co-director of the World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating centre for evidence informed policy-making, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Guideline International Network, the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group, and several other committees. He led or participated in numerous high-profile guideline panels, including at the WHO, the American College of Physicians, American Thoracic Society, and the World Allergy Organization, and he was a key contributor to the revised methods for WHO guideline

development in 2006. For the past 15 years, he has been advisor to ministries of health and other governmental organisations for their guideline programmes. His work also focuses on practical application of his work by researchers and clinicians through contributions to the guideline development tool (www.grade-pro.org), the guideline checklist (cebgrade.mcmaster.ca/guidecheck.html) and GRADE evidence to decision frameworks (www.decide-collaboration.eu). Maintaining an active clinical practice fulfils his passion for patient care and ensures his research is people-oriented. In his personal life, he has planned to ride the course of a Tour de France, trains vigorously and succeeded partially.

Pre-conference workshop: **GRADE for Guideline Developers**
Facilitators: Holger Schünemann, Nandi Siegfried, Tamara Kredo
Date: 23 February 2016
Venue: Flamingo Room, Conference Centre, South African Medical Research Council, Francie van Zijl Drive, Cape Town
RSVP: By 20 January 2016 to SAGE@mrc.ac.za (space limited to 30 participants)

GRADE - Grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations

Judgments about evidence and recommendations in healthcare are complex. Systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare provide essential, but not sufficient information for making well-informed decisions. Reviewers and people who use reviews draw conclusions about the quality of the evidence, either implicitly or explicitly and these judgments guide subsequent decisions. Similarly, practice guidelines and people who use them draw conclusions about the strength of recommendations, either implicitly or explicitly. A systematic and explicit approach to making judgments such as these can help to prevent errors, facilitate critical appraisal of these judgments, and help to improve communication of this information to decision makers, including end-users.

Sponsorships

Limited sponsorships (including flights, accommodation and ground travel in Cape Town) will be available to support attendance of participants with evidence of current involvement in guideline work. These sponsorships may support attendance on either or both days and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please request a sponsorship form and submit your request for sponsorship by 15 January 2015 to Michelle Galloway michelle.galloway@mrc.ac.za or SAGE@mrc.ac.za. Please contact us if you require further details.

