

Example from the Effective Practice and Organization of Care CRG

Study design:

- RCT
- CCT
- CBA
- ITS

Interventions:

- **Type of intervention** (for each comparison group the components/categories of the intervention received are recorded, as listed under TOPICS)

Professional

Financial

Organisational

Regulatory

- Controls

- Characteristics of the intervention

Evidence base

Purpose of recommendations (eg appropriate management, cost containment)

Nature of desired change (initiation of new management, stopping introduction of new management, reduction, increase, cessation or modification of established management)

Format

Source

Based upon implementation of clinical guidelines

Guidelines developed through formal consensus process

Recipient

Deliverer

Timing

Setting

Source of funding

Ethical approval

Type of targeted behaviour

Participants:

- Characteristics of participating providers

Profession

Level of training

Clinical specialty

Age

Time since graduation/years in practice

- Characteristics of participating subjects

Clinical problem

Number of subjects included in the study

Episodes of care

Patients

Providers

Practices

Hospitals

Communities or regions

Other characteristics (eg age, gender, ethnicity)

Setting:

- Reimbursement system

- Location of care
- Academic status
- Country
- Proportion of eligible providers from the sampling frame

Methods:

- Unit of allocation
- Unit of analysis
- Study power
- Methodological quality

RCT/CCT

CBA

ITS

- Consumer involvement

Prospective identification of barriers to change

Outcomes:

- Description of the main outcome measures (health professional outcomes/process measures, patient outcomes, costs)
- Length of time outcomes measured after initiation of the intervention
- Length of post-intervention follow-up period
- Possible ceiling effect eg little room for improvement in provider performance because it was adequate without the intervention (based on baseline measurements or control group performance)

Results:

- RCTs and CCTs

The results for the main outcomes in natural units

The baseline performance and post-intervention differences between study and control groups (including statistical significance if reported; and indicating if the units of randomisation and analysis were different)

- CBAs

The results for the main outcomes in natural units

The baseline difference in the pre-post intervention change between groups

For each available comparison, the difference across study groups of the pre-post intervention change (including statistical significance if reported; and in all cases reporting a more favourable provider/patient outcome in the intervention group as a positive finding ie where differences in the groups are in the intended direction)

- ITSs

The results for the main outcomes in natural units (in all cases reporting a more favourable provider/patient outcome attributable to the intervention as a positive finding ie where changes in the outcome are in the intended direction)