

INPLASY PROTOCOL

To cite: Niu et al. The quality and clinical applicability of recommendations in anxiety disorders guidelines: A systematic review of seventeen guidelines from seven countries. Inplasy protocol 202170068. doi: 10.37766/inplasy2021.7.0068

Received: 21 July 2021

Published: 21 July 2021

Corresponding author:
Jinhui Tian

tianjh@lzu.edu.cn

Author Affiliation:
Lanzhou university

Support: Gansu Province Project.

Review Stage at time of this submission: Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria.

Conflicts of interest:
None declared.

The quality and clinical applicability of recommendations in anxiety disorders guidelines: A systematic review of seventeen guidelines from seven countries

Niu, MM¹; Gao, Y²; Yang, M³; Zhang, YG⁴; Geng, J⁵; Song, ZW⁶; Chen, YM⁷; Li, YC⁸; Li, J⁹; Tian, JH¹⁰.

Review question / Objective: To evaluate the quality of guidelines for the treatment of anxiety disorders and identify their deficiencies to provide a basis for improving the quality of the guidelines in the future.

Condition being studied: Anxiety disorders are the most common mental disorders. Some countries and organizations have developed guidelines for anxiety disorders. So it is necessary to understand the quality of these guidelines.

Eligibility criteria: We will limited our search to guidelines based on a systematic literature assessment and a structured consensus process. Anxiety disorders are defined according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)-5. CPGs have to meet the definition of CPGs from the Institute of Medicine and provide recommendations for the treatment of anxiety disorders. The language is limited to English. There are no restrictions on the date of publication, age of people and types of interventions. Furthermore, if a new version of a guideline had been published, the old version is excluded.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 21 July 2021 and was last updated on 21 July 2021 (registration number INPLASY202170068).

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective: To evaluate the quality of guidelines for the treatment of anxiety disorders and identify their deficiencies to provide a basis for improving the quality of the guidelines in the future.

Condition being studied: Anxiety disorders are the most common mental disorders. Some countries and organizations have developed guidelines for anxiety disorders. So it is necessary to understand the quality of these guidelines.

METHODS

Participant or population: Anxiety disorders were defined according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)-5.

Intervention: Any intervention.

Comparator: Any comparators/ comparison.

Study designs to be included: CPGs had to meet the definition of CPGs from the Institute of Medicine

Eligibility criteria: We will limited our search to guidelines based on a systematic literature assessment and a structured consensus process. Anxiety disorders are defined according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)-5. CPGs have to meet the definition of CPGs from the Institute of Medicine and provide recommendations for the treatment of anxiety disorders. The language is limited to English. There are no restrictions on the date of publication, age of people and types of interventions. Furthermore, if a new version of a guideline had been published, the old version is excluded.

Information sources: We systematically searched for CPGs in PubMed, Embase, and Web of Science on 5 December 2020. Besides, we also searched the guideline databases, including National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN), Guidelines International Network (GIN), Canadian CPG Infobase: Clinical Practice Guidelines Database, and Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines (ACPG). Additional relevant studies were searched through search engines (such as Google) and references of included guidelines.

Main outcome(s): We will conduct a systematic review of guidelines for treatment of anxiety disorders by evaluating the quality of guidelines and the clinical applicability of recommendations.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: Five trained reviewers will independently assess the methodological quality of the guidelines using Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation (AGREE) (監) and AGREE Recommendation Excellence (AGREE-REX). We will solve disagreements by discussion.

Strategy of data synthesis: The score of each domain will be calculated by adding scores of each item and then standardizing the scores: (obtained score–minimum possible score)/(maximum possible score–minimum possible score). The standardized scores for each domain range from 0% to 100%. Mean (\pm standard deviation, SD) will be calculated as part of the descriptive analyses. In order to evaluate the agreement among the reviewers, we will calculate the intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) based on the initial literature screening and quality evaluation results.

Subgroup analysis: Based on the funding sources and different countries of guidelines, we will analyze the scores for each domain of the guidelines.

Sensitivity analysis: Not applicable.

Language: The language is limited to English.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Anxiety disorders; Clinical practice guideline; AGREE.

Contributions of each author:

Author 1 - Mingming Niu.

Author 2 - Ya Gao.

Author 3 - Min Yang.

Author 4 - Yonggang Zhang.

Author 5 - Jie Geng.

Author 6 - Ziwei Song.

Author 7 - Yamin Chen.

Author 8 - Yanchen Li.

Author 9 - Jiang Li.

Author 10 - Jinhui Tian.