Recommending Working Group meeting



Notes from 15 January 2021

1. COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS REPOSITORY

- e-COVID, led by Holger Scheunemann in collaboration with NIPH (Norway), map of recommendations related to COVID-19; launched in December 2020
- Aligns with a core interest of COVID-END recommending working group, opportunity to amplify and build upon repository while also harmonizing across different groups
- Several members of COVID-END involved in supporting and/or contributing to e-COVID initiative
- e-COVID is linked with both GIN and COVID-END, though does not currently include all guidelines (e.g. doesn't include WHO living guidelines and Australian living guidelines, WHO guidelines are not most recent)
- Rebecca suggested that gap in comprehensiveness may be more due to capacity in completing timely assessments, and may be a way for some in COVID-END to consider supporting
- Suggested that those who have guidelines included in e-COVID to review whether all are
 included, how their guidelines are reflected, if they had opportunity to provide feedback, what is
 missing and raise any suggestions for improvements
 - o Important that this be done by members of the recommending working group without any conflicts of interest and is seen as a robust and transparent assessment

ACTION: Ivan and David offered to receive and compile feedback from those with guidelines in e-COVID

- Also suggested doing a structured review of methodology used to identify and classify guidelines: https://www.cochrane.org/sites/default/files/public/uploads/stevens-2020-the-ecovid-19-living-recommendations-map-and-gateway-to-contextualisation1.pdf
- Some concerns raised by group members included:
 - o how repositories can effectively interact with organizations that produce guidelines
 - o few opportunities to provide feedback, missing granularity in interpretations
 - helpful to have collaborative spirit in assessments, use interpretation of recommendations rather than originals; helpful to have transparency about how that is developed

ACTION: David and Sara offered to review methodological documents and provide feedback Summary of methodology:

• COVID-END inventory could also include observational trials as important resource to decision-makers; David agreed to follow-up with inventory group

 Group agreed would be helpful to reach out to members of e-COVID (in two weeks and ask members to send comments by Jan 29th

2. RECONFIGURATION OF WORKING GROUPS

- a. Review updates to new and existing working and task groups (see attachment 3)
- b. Review Recommending working group's terms of reference (see appendix in attachment 3)
- c. Review Recommending working group and COVID-END's meetings schedule (see attachment 4)
- Recommending working group to continue meeting monthly; group strongly supported
 continuing to meet as brings people in leadership positions together to share best practice, ideas
 and ways forward
- Highlighted suggestion that Alric, Sara, Ivan join Profiling working group
- All groups members to send a note to Safa if would like to join any new working groups
- The group raised some questions about the new structure, including
 - o Potential overlap between some groups (e.g. Scoping vs Profiling)
 - Extent that groups will be addressing post-COVID concerns; this is address at COVID-END level by the Sustaining working group, but may also be relevant for each of the working groups to consider
 - Helpful to have discussion of global vision and shift in approach with focus on lessons learned and how to move that forward; helpful to have someone to speak to this from the secretariat
- For recommending group, focus on continuing to build up support and integration for HTA, continue to build on living evidence and living guidance; how we interact with other working groups