**Closing the gap between scientific research and clinical practice: The value of clinical guidelines.**

Leen De Coninck, Joris De Schepper, Lien Beyls, Patricia Claessens
Artevelde University College Ghent, Belgium

**Background**
Clinical Guidelines are recommendations on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions. Clinical guidelines are based on the best available evidence and help healthcare professionals to work Evidence Based. Clinical Guidelines were developed for different types of health disorders.
This research report focuses on the methodology of guideline development and is applied to fall prevention in elderly.

**Objective**
To determine the most effective and efficient interventions concerning a health problem, in this case specifically applied to fall prevention.

**Methodology**
The research project is developed using the principles of Evidence Based Practice. Methodological triangulation is assuring the reliability. Literature review was combined with qualitative data collection, Focus Group Interview.
Systematic searches of Cochrane Library and Medline identified reviews. Also existing Clinical Guideline were analyzed.
Focus groups were held with healthcare professionals.
During and at the end of the research, the provisional guideline has been Peer Reviewed.

**Results**
Literature review argues that multidisciplinary interventions are effective in reducing fall rates, but they report insufficient concrete interventions.
The outcome of the Focus Groups completes the deficit.
The Peer Review assures the reliability.

**Conclusion**
The high standards set by society requires more and more quality in health care. Evidence Based Practice combines the best evidence of literature research with qualitative research. Clinical Guidelines assist the health care professional to deliver quality work.