resources, to support adoption of NICE health technology assessments guidance into practice. We will continue to engage with healthcare professionals and be responsive in our processes to ensure the packages of adoption support are tailored to need.

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OP35 Integrated Knowledge Translation In Policy Development

AUTHORS:

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INTRODUCTION:

Immune globulin (IG) is a publicly funded blood product with high utilization rates and rapidly rising costs. Inappropriate use of IG, particularly in dose and treatment duration, is observed in about 10 percent of cases, and the national guidelines for IG treatment are outdated. To develop a utilization management policy for IG, the Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Ministries of Health collaborated with health technology assessment (HTA) researchers and clinicians to develop evidence-based guideline recommendations for IG treatment to inform an authorization policy for IG utilization in the provinces.

METHODS:

A multidisciplinary committee comprising HTA researchers and 22 physicians from seven medical specialties adapted recommendations from 43 "seed" guidelines into one locally contextualized IG guideline. HTA methods and rapid review products were used extensively to update gaps in the evidence base. The guideline recommendation document was used to develop a provincial IG utilization management policy. The challenges of achieving a methodologically rigorous guideline development process will be discussed.

RESULTS:

The guideline contained over 60 recommendations for IG use in different medical specialties. The health ministries used the guideline recommendations to develop an IG authorization policy. The clinician-sanctioned review criteria were used to construct a conditional reimbursement system for generating outcome data from controlled off-label IG use for conditions where evidence gaps existed, and were built into policies for benchmarking compliance.

CONCLUSIONS:

Three provinces successfully collaborated to develop an IG utilization management policy. The unique approach involved a credible and transparent process that incorporated key review elements for compliance benchmarking and reimbursement, promoted clinician buy-in, and created a cadre of clinical champions willing to assist in policy development and implementation. The proactive, rather than retroactive, incorporation of clinician-sanctioned benchmarking and review criteria into policy will help bridge the know-do gap and foster a stronger, more direct link between health policy and evidence.

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OP37 Health Technology Assessment Impact Assessment: Barriers And Enablers Perceived By Members Of The International Network Of Agencies For Health Technology Assessment (INAHTA)

AUTHORS:

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INTRODUCTION:

Health technology assessment (HTA) agencies wish to ensure the impact of their HTAs. HTA impact assessment measures the influence of a HTA on decision-making and downstream to patient outcomes. Despite their potential to provide insights, the use of impact assessment frameworks by HTA agencies is limited. Understanding the underlying mechanisms of adopting HTA impact assessment frameworks is therefore important. Using a social cognitions lens, this study aims to provide insights into the enabling and hindering factors associated with the assessment of HTA impact by INAHTA members.