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SP1 - Cooperation

Collaborative Project
Small or medium scale research project

FP7 – HEALTH – 2010 – two-stage

Deliverable 6.1 – Version 4 of GRADEpro incorporating Phase 1 DECIDE strategies

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Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable: Dr Holger Schünemann, University Hospital, Freiburg

Coordinator: Dr Shaun Treweek

Signed: *S. Treweek*

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Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	



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Nature: Report

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Name: UHF
Lead Beneficiary: UHF
E-mail: schuneh@mcmaster.ca

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Author(s): Dr Holger Schünemann
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1. Introduction

The DECIDE project, started on the 1st of January 2011, aims to build on the work of the GRADE working group (www.gradeworkinggroup.org) by developing and evaluating ways of effectively communicating and supporting the uptake of evidence-based recommendations about prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for different target groups. The project also develops strategies for recommendations about diagnostic tests and health system policies.

The DECIDE project is structured in five main investigational workpackages, each aimed at a different target (stakeholder) group: Healthcare professionals (WP1), policymakers and managers (WP2), public, patients and carers (WP3), users of evidence on diagnostic tests (WP4), and users of evidence on health system policies (WP5). To achieve the objectives, each of these work packages is structured in three phases: Strategy development (Phase 1), Evaluating of the strategies in randomised clinical trials (Phase 2), and testing the strategies with real guidelines (Phase 3).

DECIDE's assessment of the effectiveness of communication strategies will provide an empirical, theoretically-informed basis for better understanding of the factors that influence the effectiveness of communication strategies on the various actors in healthcare.

The objective of WP6 is to develop a toolkit for preparing and disseminating evidence-based recommendations using the DECIDE strategies developed in WPs 1-5. In this deliverable (D6.1) we present the progress and achievements for the development of version 4 of GRADEpro incorporating Phase 1 DECIDE strategies.

2. WP6 • Strategies for collaboration among European guideline developers and health technology assessment agencies

M24 report

WP lead: Partner 7 (UHF)

Summary of progress towards objectives

- WP team and advisory board confirmed under leadership of Partner 7
- Worked with other workpackages to integrate findings of their work in GRADEpro
- Explicit consideration of observational evidence has been improved in GRADEpro
- GRADEpro now allows users at different sites to collaborate on evidence profiles and share this information electronically
- Evaluated the pilot version of the new GRADEpro
- Version 4 of GRADEpro (Deliverable 6.1) has been designed and programmed.

GRADEpro, version 4, is a *de novo* designed and programmed application using a client-server architecture with HTML5-based client running in a web browser. This makes it independent of the operating system and allows for full functionality online and offline. We use industry-standard open-source technology to ensure its continuity and support in the future.

We designed and programmed the interface according to WYSIWYG principle. We are continuing to test its usability and ergonomics and adjusting it based on explicitly elicited user feedback. In order to provide users functional application as soon as possible we concentrated on reproducing functionality of a previous version of GRADEpro.

We programmed the client application and we are designing and programming the online server to enable user collaboration. We designed the core application in a flexible and modular format to enable tailoring the interface and functionality for the needs of various DECIDE partners and multiple other users of GRADE evidence summaries.

We have translated the interface to the Spanish language and we will make it available once the design of the interface is finalized.

We redesigned and improved data exchange with Cochrane Collaboration Review Manager (RevMan) statistical package. At the moment GRADEpro is able to import all types of analyses currently available in RevMan and export evidence tables directly to RevMan file.

We implemented the current evidence to recommendations (EtR) framework developed in the DECIDE project. This will be updated and subsequent modifications will be added once they become available as a result of the research being done in other DECIDE workpackages. For instance, WP6 leadership participates in the regular EtR framework conference calls and is actively providing leadership in

developing the EtR for diagnostic tests and strategies. WP6 leadership also completed user testing for the EtR framework for guideline developers. This work facilitates direct implementation of results in GRADEpro. The EtR framework is a toolkit that assists health care decision-makers and patients to integrate available research evidence with considerations of patient preferences, values and resource use to make decisions and recommendations about optimal health care.

The beta version of GRADEpro is available following the URL:
<http://www.guidelinedevelopment.org/beta/>

Critical issues encountered

There have been no critical issues.

Deviations from Annex 1 and their impact

There have been no deviations.