DECIDE
Developing and Evaluating Communication strategies to support Informed Decisions and practice based on Evidence

Work Package 1

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Health professional focussed strategies for communicating evidence-based recommendations

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A NOVEL MULTILAYERED PRESENTATION FORMAT FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND: To address current shortcomings in conveying practice recommendations and supporting evidence, WP1 is creating and testing strategies for effectively communicating clinical practice guidelines (CPGs).

METHODS: We carried out multiple cycles of brainstorming and sketching, developing a prototype presentation format, collected feedback from 27 stakeholders and performed user testing with 47 practicing physicians from six countries. Physicians participating in the user testing viewed presentation formats linked to clinical scenarios and engaged in semi-structured interviews applying a think-aloud method for exploring important aspects of user experience.

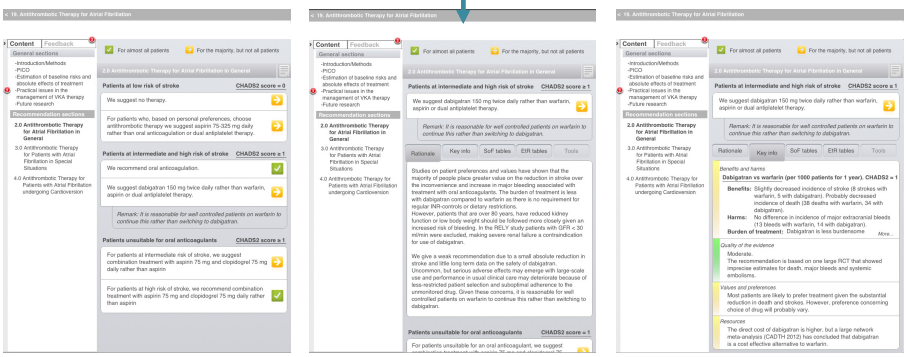
RESULTS: We developed a multilayered presentation format allowing clinicians to successively view more in depth information. Starting with the recommendations clinicians can then access a rationale and a key information section containing information on quality of the evidence, balance between desirable and undesirable consequences, values and preferences, and resource considerations.

Initial advisory group feedback and user testing revealed problems with conceptual understanding of underlying CPG methodology as well as difficulties with the complexity of the layout and content. Extensive revisions made before the second round resulted in most participants expressing overall satisfaction with the final presentation format.

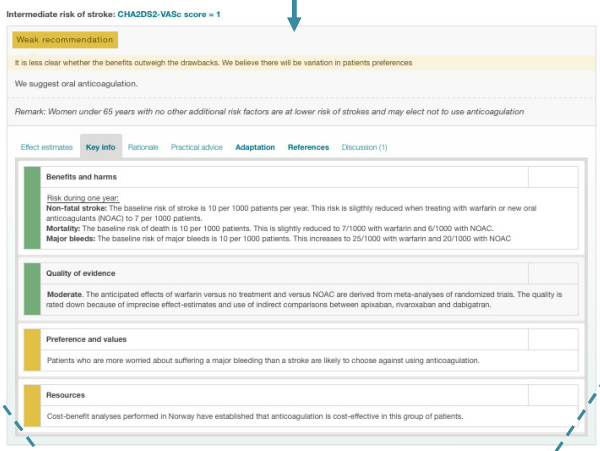
IMPLICATIONS: The multilayered CPG format is likely to enhance the utility of CPGs for front-line clinicians. We have implemented the format in electronic guideline authoring tools and are currently revising, testing and evaluating end-users perceptions of the format.

Brainstorming & Sketching

Stakeholder feedback & user testing round I



User testing round II



Surveys & trials

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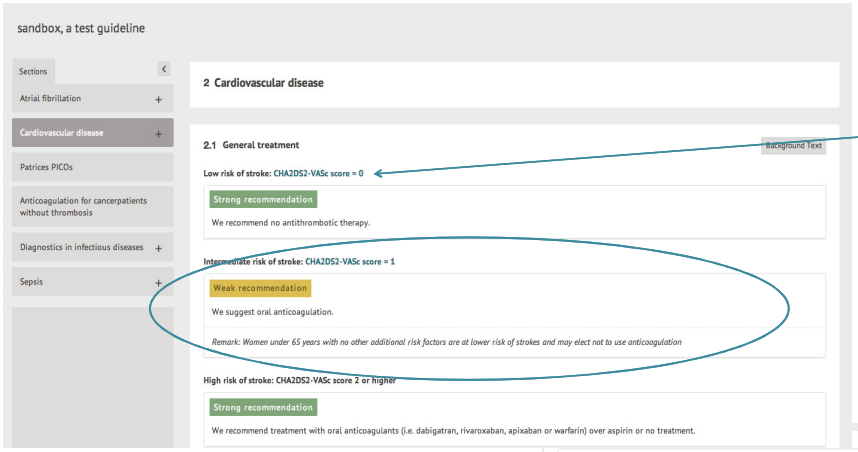
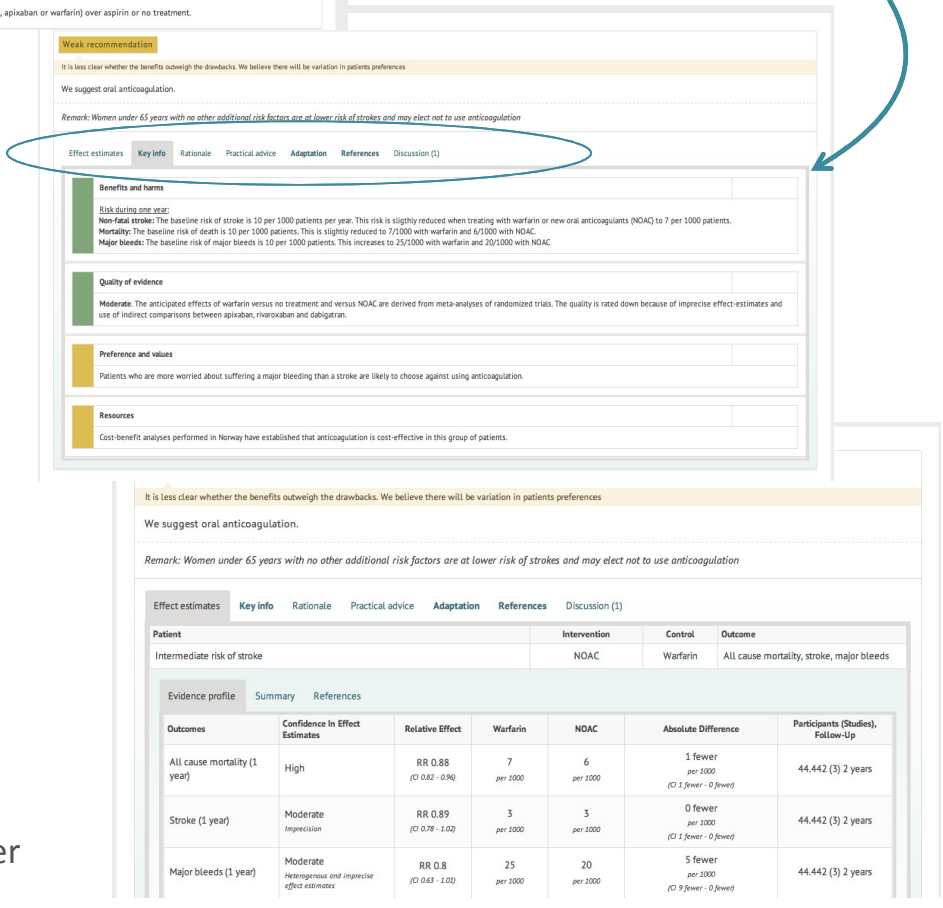
A walkthrough of the multilayered format



First an overview of the **recommendations**

Hyperlink to risk score

Click on the recommendation to access underlying layers of information
Then navigate by using the tabs



Second the background;

Key information

- The balance between benefits & harms
- The quality of the evidence
- Typical patient preferences & values
- Resource issues

Rationale

- The guideline panels reasoning underlying the recommendation

Practical information

- E.g. dosage, contraindications

Summary of findings tables

- Relevant evidence summaries per recommendation

References

- References per recommendation with hyperlinks to PubMed & journal

Visit www.guidelinedevelopment.org/ and www.magicapp.org/ to experience the multilayered format in real guidelines

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