

Table 1. Comparison of original AGREE and AGREE II items.

Original AGREE Item	AGREE II Item
<b>Domain 1. Scope and Purpose</b>	
1. The overall objective(s) of the guideline is (are) specifically described.	No change
2. The clinical question(s) covered by the guideline is (are) specifically described.	The health question(s) covered by the guideline is (are) specifically described.
3. The patients to whom the guideline is meant to apply are specifically described.	The population (patients, public, etc.) to whom the guideline is meant to apply is specifically described.
<b>Domain 2. Stakeholder Involvement</b>	
4. The guideline development group includes individuals from all the relevant professional groups.	No change
5. The patients' views and preferences have been sought.	The views and preferences of the target population (patients, public, etc.) have been sought.
6. The target users of the guideline are clearly defined.	No change
<b>Domain 3. Rigour of Development</b>	
7. Systematic methods were used to search for evidence.	No change in item.
8. The criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described.	No change in item.
	The strengths and limitations of the body of evidence are clearly described.
9. The methods for formulating the recommendations are clearly described.	No change
10. The health benefits, side effects, and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations.	No change
11. There is an explicit link between the recommendations and the supporting evidence.	No change
12. The guideline has been externally reviewed by experts prior to its publication.	No change
13. A procedure for updating the guideline is provided.	No change
<b>Domain 4. Clarity of Presentation</b>	
14. The recommendations are specific and unambiguous.	No change
15. The different options for management of the condition are clearly presented.	The different options for management of the condition or health issue are clearly presented.

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16. Key recommendations are easily identifiable.	No change
<b>Domain 5. Applicability</b>	
17. The guideline is supported with tools for application.	The guideline provides advice and/or tools on how the recommendations can be put into practice.
18. The potential organizational barriers in applying the recommendations have been discussed.	The guideline describes facilitators and barriers to its application.
19. The potential cost implications of applying the recommendations have been considered.	The potential resource implications of applying the recommendations have been considered.
20. The guideline presents key review criteria for monitoring and/ or audit purposes.	The guideline presents monitoring and/ or auditing criteria.
<b>Domain 6. Editorial Independence</b>	
21. The guideline is editorially independent from the funding body.	The views of the funding body have not influenced the content of the guideline.
22. Conflicts of interest of guideline development members have been recorded.	Competing interests of guideline development group members have been recorded and addressed.