



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Advancing Excellence in Health Care

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Conflict of Interest: National Guideline Clearinghouse™ (NGC) Data

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Evidence, AHRQ**



Overview of NGC

- n Database and Web site of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines meeting 4 criteria for inclusion
- n Resource went live in Jan 1999
- n Currently over 2,000 guidelines at site
- n Avg 1M visits per month



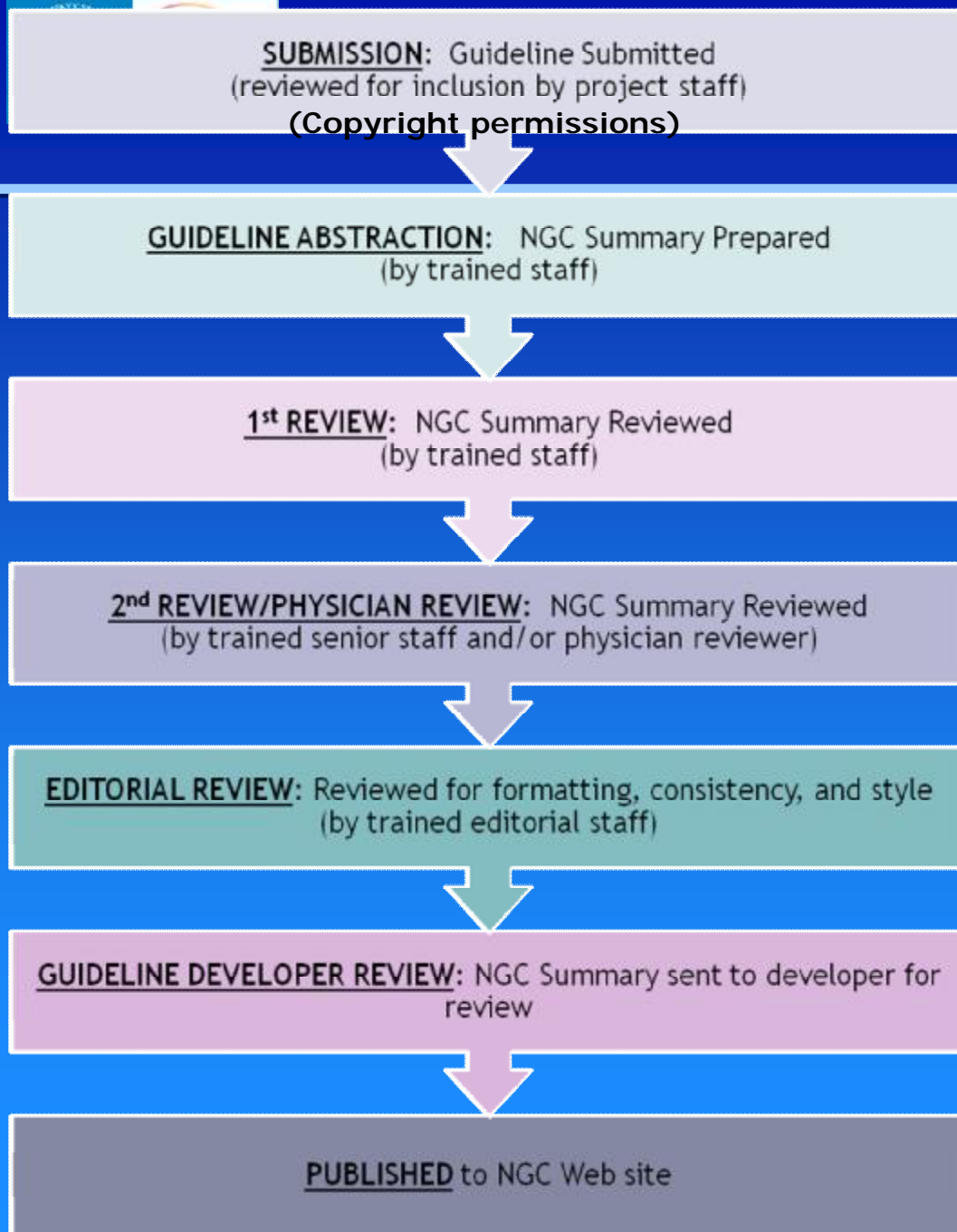
Database record

The screenshot shows the National Guideline Clearinghouse website. The main content area displays a 'Complete Summary' for a guideline titled 'The diagnosis, evaluation, and management of von Willebrand disease.' The page includes sections for 'GUIDELINE TITLE', 'BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)', and 'GUIDELINE STATUS'. A prominent red banner indicates a 'REGULATORY ALERT'. Below this, an 'FDA WARNING/REGULATORY ALERT' section provides a note from the National Guideline Clearinghouse regarding a revised regulatory warning for Desmopressin. A table of contents for the 'COMPLETE SUMMARY CONTENT' is visible, listing sections such as SCOPE, METHODOLOGY, RECOMMENDATIONS, EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS, BENEFITS/HARMS OF IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS, CONTRAINDICATIONS, QUALIFYING STATEMENTS, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINE, INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY REPORT CATEGORIES, IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND AVAILABILITY, and DISCLAIMER. The 'SCOPE' section lists 'DISEASE/CONDITION(S)' as 'von Willebrand disease (VWD)'. The 'GUIDELINE CATEGORY' is partially visible at the bottom.

n AKA structured abstract, complete summary

n Captures ~50 attributes

NGC Summary Process



- Multi-staged production and review process
- Trained staff (*e.g., MS, PhDs, MDs, Informatics Specialists, with others with clinical backgrounds, etc.*)
- Multiple rounds of reviews for clinical accuracy and consistency
- Guideline developer review



Guideline Attribute

SCOPE

Description of the intended users

Guideline objectives

Target population

Outcomes considered

METHODOLOGY

Methods used to collect the evidence

Methods used to analyze the evidence

Methods used to formulate recommendations

Methods used to review/validate recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

Explicit, action-oriented recommendations

Evidence linked to recommendations

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementation strategy

Implementation tools

Identification of available measures/audit criteria

COMMITTEE CHARACTERISTICS

Description of committee members (e.g., clinical specialty, affiliation, patient representative, etc.)

Conflicts/financial disclosures

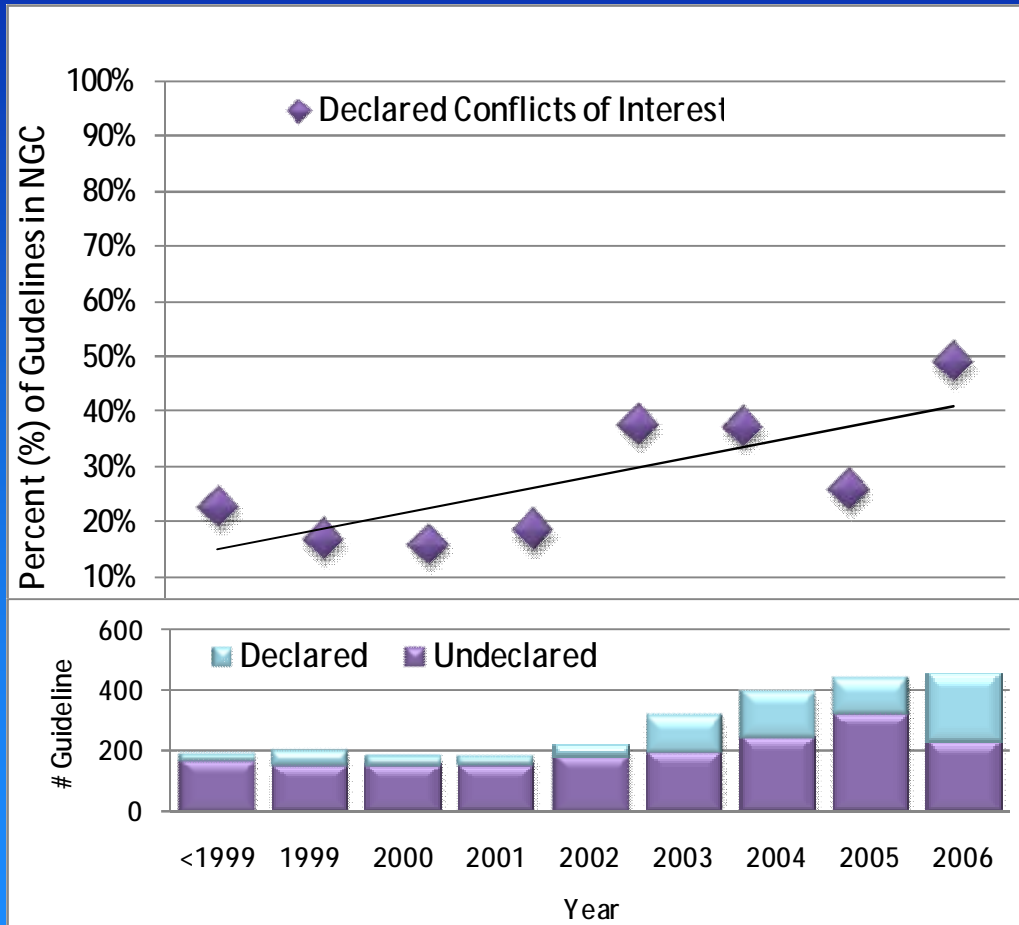
Later
today



Select attributes used in data analysis to obtain trends in reporting by guideline developers participating in NGC (1996-2006)



Reporting of Conflicts of Interest (1996-2006)



Quantifying change over time

We examined ALL guidelines ever represented in NGC

- § Currently published
- § Now superseded
- § Now withdrawn

Time Frame = 1996-2006

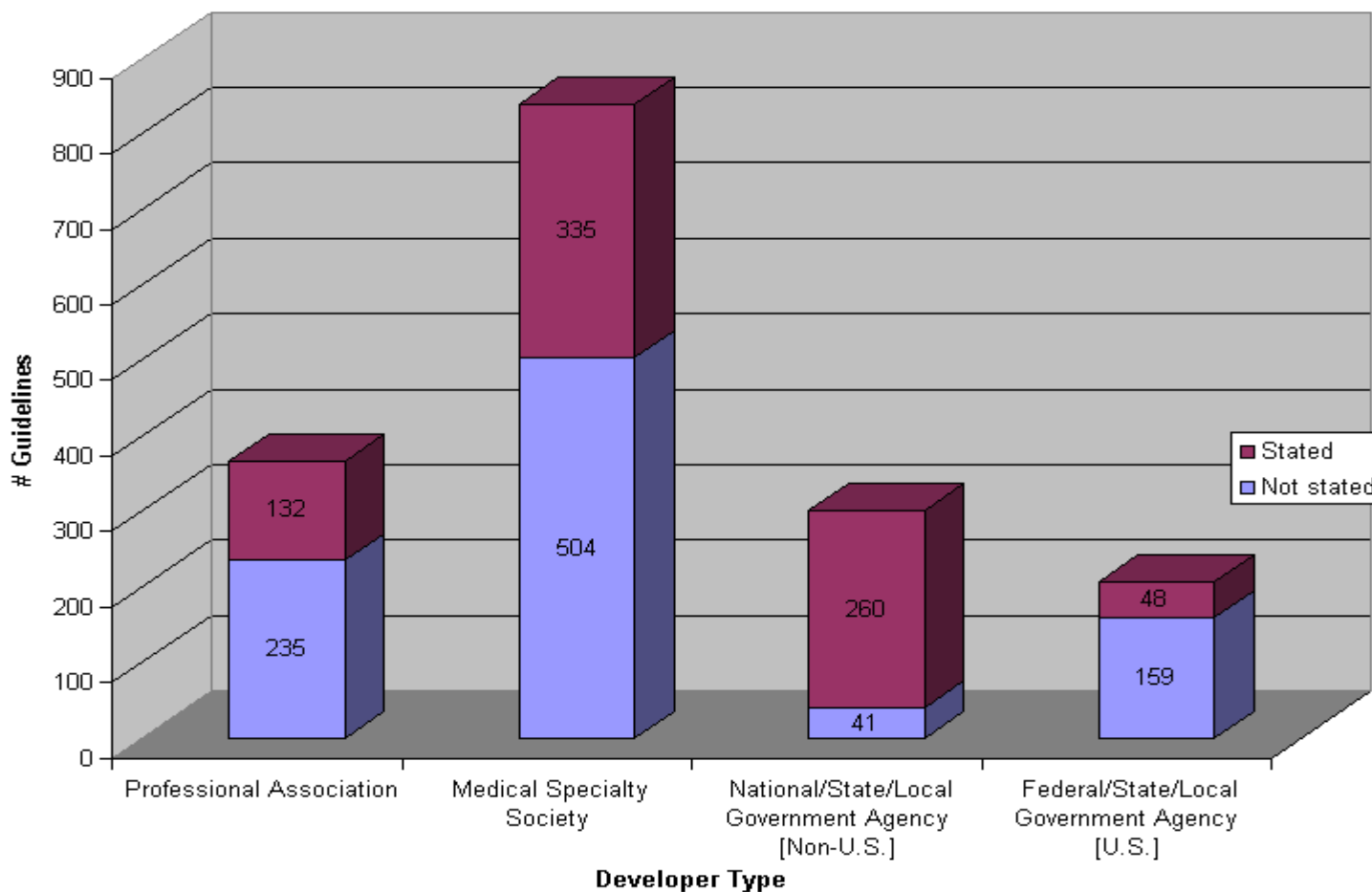
Total summaries = 2637

How many guidelines declared ANYTHING about **conflicts of interest** per YEAR?



COI Reporting by Guideline Developer Type (Data Snapshot on 04/21/08)

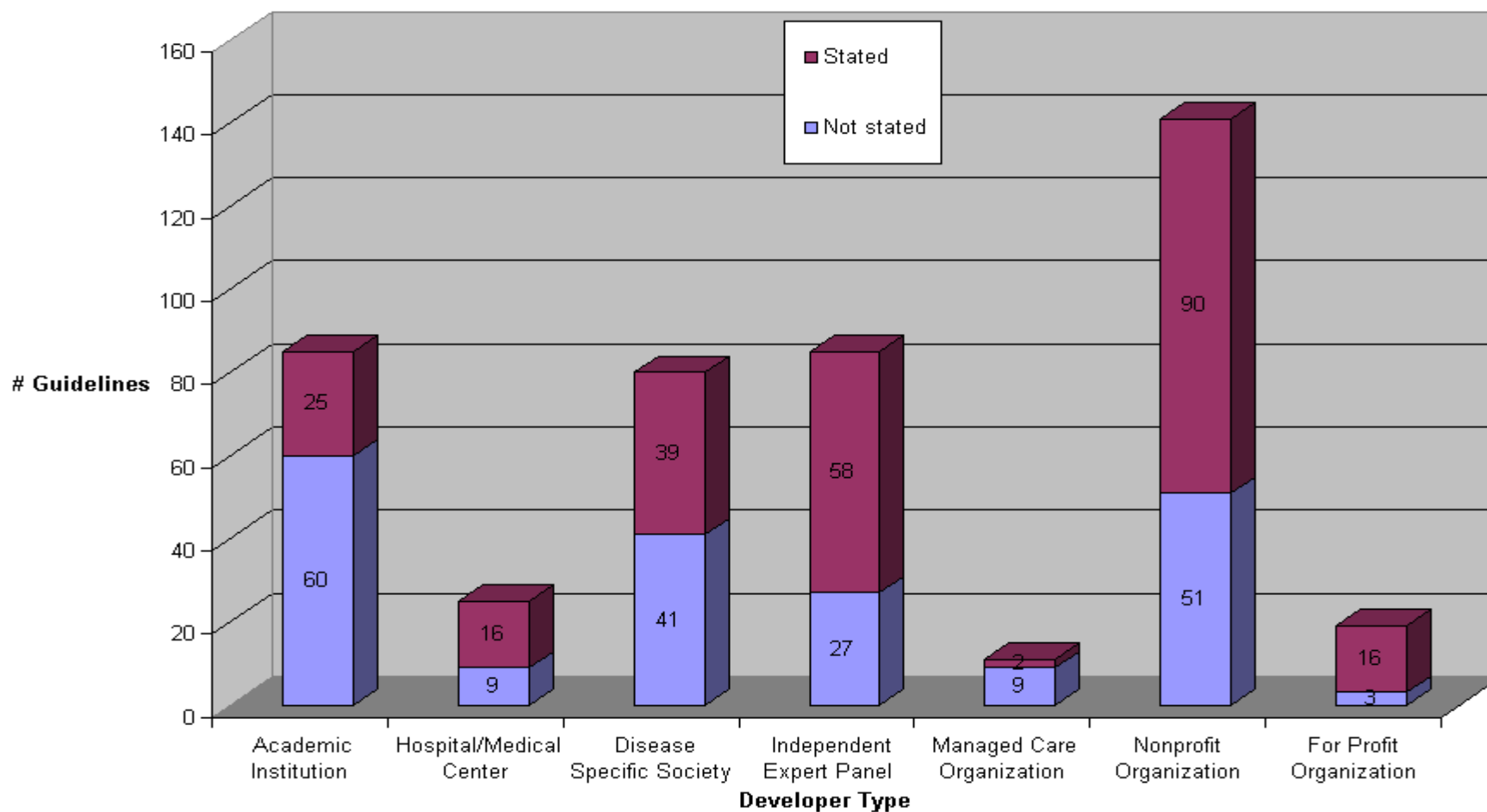
COI By Guideline Developer Type - **More than 200 Guidelines**





COI Reporting by Guideline Developer Type (Data Snapshot on 04/21/08)

COI by Guideline Developer Type - **Less Than 200 Guidelines**





“Stated” Example: UMHS guideline on rhinitis, 2007

The University of Michigan Health System endorses the Guidelines of the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education that the individuals who present educational activities disclose significant relationships with commercial companies whose products or services are discussed. Disclosure of a relationship is not intended to suggest bias in the information presented, but is made to provide readers with information that might be of potential importance to their evaluation of the information.

Team Member; Company; Relationship

David DeGuzman, MD (None)

Catherine Bettcher, MD (None)

R. Van Harrison, PhD (None)

Christine Holland, MD (None)

Cary Johnson, PharmD (None)

Sharon Kileny, MD (None)

Jeffery Terrell, MD, Neilmed, Research support (saline solution)



More COI examples

HIV testing, CDC, 2006

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), their planners, and content experts wish to disclose they have no financial interests or other relationships with the manufacturers of commercial products, suppliers of commercial services, or commercial supporters. Presentations will not include any discussion of the unlabeled use of a product or a product under investigational use

American Acad Ophthalmology, diabetic retinopathy, 2003

No proprietary interests were disclosed by members of the Preferred Practice Patterns Retina Panel for the past 3 years up to and including June 2003 for product, investment, or consulting services regarding the equipment, process, or products presented or competing equipment, process, or products presented.

American Acad Pediatrics, bronchiolitis, 2007

All panel members reviewed the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Policy on Conflict of Interest and Voluntary Disclosure and were given an opportunity to declare any potential conflicts.

Note: variation in COI reporting exists within a single guideline developer organization



Funding Source Attribution

n 98.3% of guidelines included in NGC identify funding source (04/21/08 data)