



### ***PRACTICE GUIDELINE TOPIC PROPOSAL FORM INTRODUCTION***

**Purpose:** This form is intended to gather suggestions from the NSGC Membership for Genetic Counseling Clinical Practice Guidelines topics.

**Definitions:** *“Clinical practice guidelines are statements that include recommendations intended to optimize patient care. They are informed by a systematic review of evidence and an assessment of the benefits and harms of alternative care options.”*

[\*Clinical Practice Guidelines We Can Trust, Institute of Medicine, March 23, 2011\*](#)

1. **Clinical Practice Guidelines** offer evidence-based recommendations and supporting documentation that attempt to conform to Institute of Medicine standards.

2. **Practice Resources** include a broad category of less rigorous documents relating to information-sharing, and genetic counseling best practices that do not require evidence-based recommendations.

- For more help distinguishing between Clinical Practice Guidelines and Practice Resources please NSGC’s [Practice Guideline Development Manual](#) (Table 1 - page 6).
- If you think your topic is best suited for a Practice Resource, please complete NSGC’s Practice Resource Topic Proposal Form

**Process:**

- The Practice Guideline Committee (PGC) will review each proposed topic.
- The PGC will prioritize topics by relevance to the field and suitability of the topic.
- The PGC will invite submitters whose topics receive top priority to work with the Committee (as needed) to develop a formal proposal.
- The PGC will review the proposal and send it to the NSGC Board for approval.
- The PGC will solicit applications for guideline-specific author groups (Systematic Review group and Practice Guideline author group) to complete the Practice Guideline.

## Clinical Practice Guideline Topic Proposal

Please submit this document to PGC Staff Liaison, [Molly Giammarco](#) with the subject line "Practice Guideline Topic Proposal Form."

**Title / Topic:**

---

---

**Background (1-2 paragraphs):**

- Description of the issue/disease/intervention
- What are the gaps in care?
- Why is it important for NSGC to review the evidence and create a guideline on this topic?
- Why is this a priority for an NSGC evidence-based guideline?

**Existing guidelines or systematic reviews on this topic?** *(List citations for any current systematic reviews or guidelines that are available or in process)*

**Please propose a draft clinical question:** *(See instructions below)*

---

---

---

**Your participation:**

Click here if you are willing to work with a member of the Practice Guidelines Committee to develop this TOPIC into a full guideline PROPOSAL.

**Names / professional position / contact information of submitters:**

## DEVELOPMENT OF CLINICAL QUESTION

Questions should fall into one of three broad categories:

- Category A: Question about a therapeutic intervention and if it can be recommended for a specific group (this can include a clinical process – e.g. telephone counseling, or a drug, a screening test, a genetic test, etc.)
- Category B: Questions regarding diagnostic or prognostic accuracy of a test or process to predict an outcome (this can be of a test, a screening questionnaire, or other process)
- Category C: Questions regarding population screening (should any one population – e.g. all women with breast cancer under 40, all pregnant women, etc. – meet with a genetic counselor, be offered a test, etc.)

To the extent possible, questions should be in “PICOTS” format.

PICOTS stands for Population, Intervention, Comparison group, Outcomes, Time, Setting--domains that are included as appropriate in the questions. Relevant outcomes are usually in terms of the effectiveness, safety, and tolerability of the outcome. Please see Step 1 of the [Practice Guideline Development Manual](#) for more details.

*PICOTS Example: In cancer patients (Population) is pre-test telephone genetic counseling (Intervention) as effective as in-person genetic counseling (Comparison) in patient knowledge, decisional-satisfaction, and clinical utilization of test results (Outcomes) in guiding treatment and follow-up (Timing/Setting).*