

# Neurosurgery Guidelines Development

see [Guidelines Development](#).

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[Neurosurgery guidelines](#) are developed based on evaluating the most [up-to-date](#) evidence. However, the current approach incompletely considers or altogether avoids [cost-effectiveness](#) when formulating these [guidelines](#) <sup>1)</sup>.

[Evidence-based guidelines](#) (EBGs) are an early-phase model of a [Clinical decision support system](#) (CDSS). While they do aid the physician by presenting scientifically based evidence during the [decision-making](#) process <sup>2) 3)</sup>.

Neurosurgical [Evidence-based guidelines](#) (EBGs) have been developed to address the problem of [variance](#) in neurosurgery <sup>4) 5) 6)</sup>

In neurosurgery, EBGs have been met with scrutiny, as <sup>7)</sup> neurosurgery-specific EBGs are rare and often formulated without neurosurgeon input <sup>8)</sup>.

[Variance](#) between [providers](#) in the neurosurgical field leads to inefficiencies and poor patient [outcomes](#). Evidence based [guidelines](#) (EBGs) have been developed as a means of pooling the body of [evidence](#) in the [literature](#) to provide [clinicians](#) with the most comprehensive [data-driven recommendations](#). However, these EBGs are not being implemented well into the clinician [workflow](#), and therefore clinicians are left to make [decisions](#) with incomplete [information](#). Equally underutilized are [electronic health records](#) (EHRs), which house enormous health [data](#), but which have failed to capitalize on the power of that 'big data.' Early attempts at EBGs were rigid and not adaptive, but with the current advances in data [informatics](#) and [machine learning algorithms](#), it is now possible to integrate 'big data' and rapid data processing into clinical decision support tools. As we strive towards variance reduction in healthcare, the integration of 'big data' and EBGs for decision-making are key.

Stopa et al., proposed that EHRs are an ideal platform for integrating EBGs into the clinician workflow. With this model, it will be possible to build EBGs into the EHR software, to continuously update and optimize EBGs based on the flow of patient data into the EHR, and to present data-driven clinical decision support at the point of care. Variance reduction in neurosurgery through the integration of evidence-based decision support in [electronic health records](#) will lead to improved patient [safety](#), reduction of medical [errors](#), maximization of available data, and enhanced decision-making power for clinicians <sup>9)</sup>.

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Use of the term rapidly expanded to include a previously described approach that emphasized the use of evidence in the design of guidelines and policies that apply to populations ("evidence-based practice policies").

It has subsequently spread to describe an approach to decision making that is used at virtually every level of health care as well as other fields, yielding the broader term evidence-based practice.

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Management of delirium, traumatic brain injury; and intracranial hemorrhage. brain stimulation for obsessive compulsive disorder; and surgery for Low-grade glioma, ischemia and hemispheric stroke, glioblastoma, and brain metastases.

In the area of indications for surgical interventions, there are EBGs for deep surgery, including the diagnosis and treatment of lumbar disc herniation, spondylolisthesis, and degenerative lumbar spondylolisthesis.

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In the current boom of [technology](#), the combination of 'big data' and [artificial intelligence](#)<sup>10) 11) 12)</sup> creates the opportunity to comprehensively integrate [evidence based decision making](#) into the [healthcare system](#). These factors are converging during a time when we are seeing significant increases in [Electronic Health Record](#) (EHR) adoption following the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009, from 3.2% among eligible hospitals before the Act to 14.2% after<sup>13)</sup>.

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<sup>12)</sup>  
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