

# Statement

A definite or clear [expression](#) of something in speech or writing.

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## Difference Between Statement and Guideline

The **difference between a statement and a guideline** lies primarily in their **purpose, content, and application**:

### Statement

A **statement** is a set of **principles or recommendations** intended to guide specific actions or reporting in a particular context.

- **Purpose:** To provide a framework or standard for best practices in a specific area.
- **Content:** Focuses on outlining key principles, often in the form of a checklist, for consistency, transparency, or quality assurance.
- **Application:** Used as a reference for conducting or reporting work, ensuring compliance with established standards.

#### Example:

1. The **STROBE Statement** provides a checklist for reporting observational studies in epidemiology. It ensures clarity and transparency in how studies are reported but does not dictate how the study itself should be conducted.

### Guideline

A **guideline** is a detailed, often evidence-based document that provides **step-by-step instructions** or recommendations for conducting actions or making decisions.

- **Purpose:** To offer comprehensive, evidence-based recommendations for a specific process or problem.
- **Content:** Includes background, rationale, methodology, best practices, and step-by-step instructions for implementation.
- **Application:** Used to guide actions or decisions in practice, research, or policy-making.

#### Example:

1. A clinical practice guideline for managing **degenerative cervical myelopathy (DCM)** would include recommendations on when to choose anterior versus posterior approaches, preoperative evaluations, and postoperative care based on evidence.

## Key Differences

Feature	Statement	Guideline
Focus	Reporting or standards	Practical actions or decisions
Scope	Framework for transparency	Comprehensive recommendations
Content Type	Checklist or principles	Detailed, evidence-based steps
Usage	Reporting or compliance	Implementation in practice
Example	STROBE Statement for reporting observational studies	Guideline for DCM surgery

In summary:

- **Statements** focus on how information is reported or presented.
- **Guidelines** focus on how tasks are performed or decisions are made in practice.

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