

Reporting of conflicts of interest in guidelines of preventive and therapeutic interventions

ABSTRACT

Clinical guidelines published in influential journals receive minimal reporting of conflicts of interest, despite recent improvements.

INTRODUCTION

The conflict of interest policy of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN General Assembly (UNGA) is a cornerstone of international public health. It is clear that the WHO and UNGA want to ensure that their recommendations are based on the best scientific evidence. In the context of the current global health crisis, this is crucial to prevent unnecessary, dangerous and inappropriate interventions. However, conflict of interest is far from a given. In fact, there is no universally accepted definition of a conflict of interest. This article describes a conflict of interest that is not easily defined.

Definition of a conflict of interest:

A conflict of interest is a situation in which the health professional and/or the patient have a conflict of interest in the performance of a health care function which has a beneficial effect on the patient or a public health concern. Guidelines have become a crucial factor in determining patient and practitioner decisions regarding appropriate healthcare. It is important to ensure that guidelines do not contain conflicts of interest, particularly for those guidelines published in influential medical journals. However, there has been no research on the reporting of conflicts or other issues in clinical guidelines submitted to this study.

CONCLUSION

Remarkable conclusions The disclosure of potential conflicts can increase public trust, as it would require minimal reporting space. Additionally, transparency could eliminate doubts about the credibility of clinical guidelines. Guideline authors and journal editors should prioritize this issue.