

# Supporting the use of research evidence (SURE) for policy in African health systems

## Workshop materials

### 10. Summarising findings about the likely impacts of options

#### Objectives

- To familiarize yourself with the GRADE framework for making judgements about the quality of evidence
- To be able to prepare a summary of findings table
- To consider how to express the impacts of options in ways that convey the quality of the underlying evidence
- To become familiar with GRADEpro software

#### Pre-workshop tasks

Read SURE guides for preparing and using policy briefs: 4. Deciding on and describing options to address the problem. Available at: [www.evipnet.org/sure](http://www.evipnet.org/sure)

Read Rating quality of evidence and strength of recommendations: What is 'quality of evidence' and why is it important to clinicians?

Download GRADEpro software and install it on your computer  
<http://ims.cochrane.org/grade>

#### Reading

The SURE Collaboration. SURE guides for preparing and using policy briefs: 4. Deciding on and describing policy options. Version 2.1 [updated November 2011]. The SURE Collaboration, 2011. Available at: [www.evipnet.org/sure](http://www.evipnet.org/sure)

Guyatt GH, Oxman AD, Kunz R, Vist GE, Falck-Ytter Y, Schünemann HJ. Rating quality of evidence and strength of recommendations: What is 'quality of evidence' and why is it important to clinicians? *BMJ* 2008; 336: 995-8.

<http://www.bmj.com/content/336/7651/995.full?sid=42c5a1b3-04fb-4f76-8e89-02d54e39b96a>

#### Additional resources

Oxman AD, Lavis JN, Fretheim A, Lewin S: SUPPORT Tools for evidence-informed health Policymaking (STP): 16. Using research evidence in balancing the pros and cons of policies. *Health Res Policy Syst.* 2009, 7(Suppl 1):S16.

#### Worksheets

SURE worksheets for preparing a summary of findings using GRADE

### **Examples of a systematic review**

Siegfried N, Muller M, Deeks JJ, Volmink J. Male circumcision for prevention of heterosexual acquisition of HIV in men. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2009, Issue 2. <http://www2.cochrane.org/reviews/en/ab003362.html>

Lee AC, Lawn JE, Darmstadt GL, Osrin D, Kumar V, Wall S, et al. Linking families and facilities for care at birth: what works to avert intrapartum-related deaths? Int J Gynecol Obstet 2009;107:S65–S88. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19815201>

### **Presentation**

Summarising findings (SURE 10 Summarising findings.pptx)

### **Notes**

**Time required:** 40 minutes for interactive presentation, 60 to 120 minutes to prepare summaries of findings and discussion

**Format:** Brief presentation and work in small groups