Protocol for development of the guideline for reporting evidence based practice educational interventions and teaching (GREET) statement.

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Background: There are an increasing number of studies investigating the efficacy of educational strategies to facilitate the development of knowledge and skills underpinning evidence based practice. To date there is no standardised guideline for describing the teaching, evaluation, context or content of evidence based practice educational strategies. The heterogeneity in the reporting of evidence based practice educational interventions makes comparisons between studies difficult. This group aims to develop the Guideline for Reporting Evidence based practice Educational interventions and Teaching (GREET) statement and an accompanying explanation and elaboration (E&E) paper.

Methods/Design: Three stages are planned for the development process. Stage one will comprise a systematic review to identify features commonly reported in descriptions of evidence based practice educational interventions. In stage two, corresponding authors of articles included in the systematic review and the editors of the journals in which these studies were published will be invited to participate in a Delphi process to reach consensus on items to be considered when reporting evidence based practice educational interventions. The final stage of the project will include the development and pilot testing of the GREET statement and E&E paper.

Outcome: The final outcome will be the creation of a Guideline for Reporting Evidence based practice Educational interventions and Teaching (GREET) statement and E&E paper.

Discussion: The reporting of health research including studies exploring ways to teach basic skills in evidence based practice, have been criticised for a lack of transparency and completeness. The development of the GREET statement will enable the standardised reporting of educational interventions used to facilitate foundation knowledge and skills for evidence based practice. This will provide a guide for researchers, reviewers and publishers for reporting evidence based practice educational interventions.