Call for participants in the
ECCO Ulcerative Colitis Treatment Guideline update
2024-2026

Deadline for submissions is January 4, 2024

Context:

- It is time to further enhance the ECCO Ulcerative Colitis Guidelines by taking advantage of the GRADE framework based on PICO questions, thus greatly improving literature research, providing scientifically more rigorous data extraction, and the direct involvement of patients, enhancing the user-friendliness and readability while strengthening the methodology and the clinical usefulness of the guidelines. It is not viable to cover surgical aspects with the GRADE methodology; hence these will still be covered using the Oxford Evidence Levels.

- The GRADE aspects are a core part of the ECCO Treatment Guidelines and require a more continuous and work-intensive commitment by volunteering authors.

- GRADE stands for key aspects of guidelines development: Grades of Recommendation, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation

- PICO stands for Population, Intervention, Outcomes, and Comparison – PICO questions answer clinical queries

Timeline:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>Open call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early January 2024</td>
<td>Applications from all participants to be received. Decision on participant list to be sent out</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21, 2024</td>
<td>Preparatory meeting at ECCO’24 for Coordinators and WG Leaders</td>
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<td>March – April 2024</td>
<td>Preparation of PICOs</td>
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<td>April 2024</td>
<td>F2F Kick-Off Meeting -&gt; voting on outcomes</td>
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<td>May – July 2024</td>
<td>Search String to be completed by Librarian</td>
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<td>Late July 2024</td>
<td>Abstract screening by 1st and 2nd screeners</td>
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<td>Late August 2024</td>
<td>Full-text screening (1st screener)</td>
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Late September 2024

Finalisation of first draft of SOF tables – Clinicians creating the tables (data extraction)

October 2024 - January 2025

Grading of evidence by the Methodologist. First draft of recommendations/statements and supporting texts

Beginning of February 2025

1st Round of Online Voting

Late February 2025

Revision of statements after 1st Round of Online Voting

Mid-March 2025

2nd Round of Online Voting including National Representatives and additional reviewers

Late March 2025

Revision of statements and drafting of manuscript

April 2025

Online Consensus Meeting

April - May 2025

Writing of manuscript by Coordinators

June 2025

Cross check by medical writer

June 2025

Review by GuiCom and ECCO GB

July 2025

Submission to JCC

Failure to deliver any task by the defined deadlines will lead to exclusion from the Project

Workgroups:

**WG1**: Mild/moderate disease (treatment options including 5-ASA, corticosteroids and immunomodulators)

**WG2**: Moderate/severe disease (treatment options including biologics and JAKi)

**WG3**: Surgical disease and the post-surgical state (including ASUC, colectomy, IPAA, pouchitis)

In each Workgroup, 1 seat is reserved for a Y-ECCO Member – yet, all participants will have assigned PICO questions to address, including a thorough literature search and drafting of corresponding text.

After final revision the statements are no longer amenable to change and the text detailing the supportive evidence is finalised for publication in the Journal of Crohn's and Colitis (JCC).

To facilitate the Consensus process, the ECCO participants will be selected for the Workgroups of this Consensus Panel on the basis of applications to this call: committed candidates with expertise are highly encouraged to apply.
Although experience in GRADE Methodology is favored, it is not an exclusive eligibility criterion. First and foremost, it is the sincere commitment to invest the necessary time and to contribute with high-quality work that counts.

If you are:

- an ECCO Member (in good standing – 2023 or 2024 membership);
- interested in joining one of the Workgroups for this project;
- willing to commit fully to the enhanced process incl. online training sessions and the participation in the Kick-Off & Final Consensus meetings (dates TBD)

Then please apply [here](#) by logging-in with your ECCO Portal Credentials.

**Deadline for submission is January 4, 2024**

*Data processing consent and retention: By sending an application, you agree to the data processing for the above-described project: ECCO Office stores applicants’ personal data of this application for the project timeframe. You have the right to object at any time at ecco@ecco-ibd.eu. ECCO Office will delete data securely after the end of this project*

If you have trouble logging in, please contact [ecco@ecco-ibd.eu](mailto:ecco@ecco-ibd.eu)

ECCO is looking forward to your application!

On behalf of the Project Coordinators,

Torsten Kucharzik  
Javier Gisbert  
Michel Adamina  
Pär Myrelid