



iCAHE Guideline Clearinghouse

iCAHE Checklist Score Sheet

Guideline:

Clinical guideline for the diagnosis and management of juvenile idiopathic arthritis (2009)

Guideline Producer:

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and the Australian Department of Health and Aging (DoHA)

Link:

http://www.racgp.org.au/Content/NavigationMenu/ClinicalResources/RACGPGuidelines/Juvenileidiopathicarthritis/RACGP_JIA_guideline.pdf

Score: 14/14

1. Availability

Is the guideline readily available in full text?	Yes
Does the guideline provide a complete reference list?	Yes
Does the guideline provide a summary of its recommendations?	Yes

2. Dates

Is there a date of completion available?	Yes
Does the guideline provide an anticipated review date?	Yes
Does the guideline provide dates for when literature was included?	Yes

3. Underlying evidence

Does the guideline provide an outline of the strategy they used to find underlying evidence?	Yes
Does the guideline use a hierarchy to rank the quality of the underlying evidence?	Yes
Does the guideline appraise the quality of the evidence which underpins its recommendations?	Yes
Does the guideline link the hierarchy and quality of underlying evidence to each recommendation?	Yes

4. Guideline developers

Are the developers of the guideline clearly stated?	Yes
Does the qualifications and expertise of the guideline developer(s) link with the purpose of the guideline and its end users?	Yes

5. Guideline purpose and users

Are the purpose and target users of the guideline stated?	Yes
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6. Ease of use

Is the guideline readable and easy to navigate?	Yes
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The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and the Australian Department of Health and Aging (DoHA) published a 'Clinical guideline for the diagnosis and management of juvenile idiopathic arthritis' in August 2009.

In Australia, at least 5000 children are affected by juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) at any one time. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis is a chronic, autoimmune, inflammatory joint disease. It is the most common rheumatic disease in children and adolescents. It is defined as 'persistent arthritis of unknown aetiology that begins before the age of 16 years and persists for at least 6 weeks'. There is currently no cure for JIA. Treatment has altered as a result of recent research into the best practice approach to managing children and this guideline aims to presents this current best available evidence.

Overall the guideline aims to present recommendations to assist GPs managing patients with JIA. It focuses on short term care, long term care planning and management, and coordination of multidisciplinary care needs. The guideline has scored highly on the iCAHE checklist on all aspects from availability to ease of use and therefore is an excellent resource for practitioners involved in JIA. The guideline highlights the importance of early diagnoses with early initial management commenced by a General Practitioner (GP); and a referral to a paediatric rheumatologist.

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