

Supplementary Table 1. American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) classification scheme for grading evidence and recommendations in clinical guidelines

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Benefits vs risks and burdens</i>	<i>Methodological quality of supporting evidence</i>
1A	Strong recommendation, high-quality evidence	Benefits clearly outweigh risks and burdens or vice versa	RCTs without important limitations or overwhelming evidence from observational studies
1B	Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence	Benefits clearly outweigh risks and burdens or vice versa	RCTs with important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies
1C	Strong recommendation, low-quality or very low quality evidence	Benefits clearly outweigh risks and burdens or vice versa	Observational studies or case series
2A	Weak recommendation, high-quality evidence	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burdens	RCTs without important limitations or overwhelming evidence from observational studies
2B	Weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burdens	RCTs with important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies
2C	Weak recommendation, low-quality or very low quality evidence	Uncertainty in the estimates of benefits, risks and burden; benefits, risk and burden may be closely balanced	Observational studies or case series

RCT, randomized controlled trial.

Source: Guyatt G, Gutterman D, Baumann MH, et al. Grading strength of recommendations and quality of evidence in clinical guidelines; report from an American College of Chest Physicians task force. *Chest*. 2006;129:174–181.