Organization _____**Date**_____

1. Aggregate Evidence Quality
Evidence Quality describes the level of confidence in a conclusion regarding the issue to which the evidence relates. It emphasizes research design, applicability of evidence to the target population, and consistency of results across studies. In the table below, indicate the categories you use to define the levels of Evidence Quality (e.g, A, B, C…) and provide definitions for each level:

Category	Definition
Example: Level A	*Randomized, controlled trials, on relevant populations without flaws*

2. Recommendation Strength
Recommendation Strength communicates the guideline authors' assessment of the importance of adherence to a recommendation. What are the terms you use to describe the strength of each recommendation? (e.g. Strong recommendation, Weak, Option)

Recommendation Strength

3. Terms for Level of Obligation
Which obligation terms are associated with each level of Recommendation Strength?
(e.g., Strong Recommendation-> "Must/Should"; Weak Recommendation-> "May")
Include more than one term for each Recommendation Strength if necessary.

Strength of Recommendation	Level of Obligation Term
Example: Strong recommendation	*"Must" or "Should"*

If your organization uses different terms for recommendations *against* an action, please record the terms used below:

Strength of Recommendation	Level of Obligation Term
Example: Strong recommendation against	*"Must not" or "Should not"*

4. Relationship between Benefits, Risks, Harms, and Costs AND Recommendation Strength

Fill in column 1 with your group's Evidence Quality categories (from #1 above). For each level of Evidence Quality, enter the indicated Recommendation Strength (from #2 above) when there is:

- a balance of benefits against risks, harms, (and costs) associated with carrying out the recommendation (Note: many organizations do not consider economic costs)
- a preponderance of benefits
- a preponderance of risks, harms (and costs).

Evidence Quality Category	Recommendation Strength When There Is a Balance of Benefits versus Risks, Harms, (or Costs)	Recommendation Strength When There Is a Preponderance of Benefits over Risks, Harms, (and Costs)	Recommendation Strength When There Is a Preponderance of Risks, Harms, (or Costs) over Benefits
Example: Level A	*"Weak Recommendation"*	*"Strong Recommendations For"*	*"Strong Recommendation Against"*