

# Prospective Cohort Studies for Safety & Effectiveness

## Recognizing Quality

Nancy A. Dreyer, PhD, FISPE  
24 October, 2014  
ICPE, Taipei

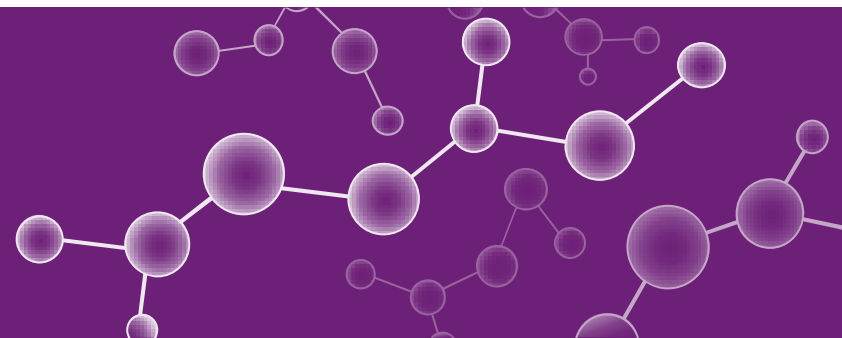


# *Some guides to quality*

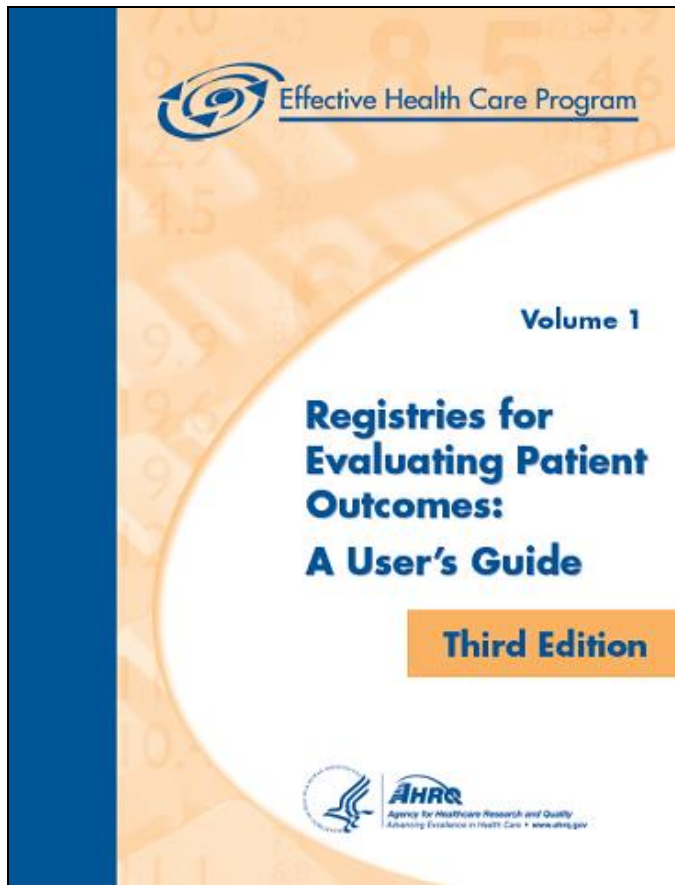
*–Guidelines for Prospective Studies and Registries*

*–Special Application for Comparative Effectiveness*

## *Registering Prospective Observational Studies*



# Driving Consistency and Quality in Patient Registries



Gliklich RE, Dreyer NA, Leavy M, eds.

## Registries for Evaluating Patient Outcomes: A User's Guide

3rd edition. Two volumes. AHRQ Publication No. 13(14)-EHC111. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. April 2014

- 100 contributors from industry, academia, health plans, physician societies, government, and patient advocacy groups
- 76 invited peer reviewers and public comment, including OCR, OHRP, IOM, FDA
- 64 case examples illustrate challenges and solutions

<http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov>

# Available in Chinese Adaptation in Korean

Gliklich RE, Dreyer NA, eds.

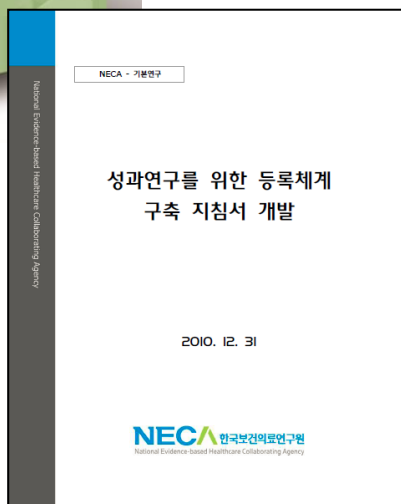
## Registries for Evaluating Patient Outcomes: A User's Guide

Prepared by Outcome DEcide Center

AHRQ Publ. No. 07-EHC001-1. Rockville, MD:

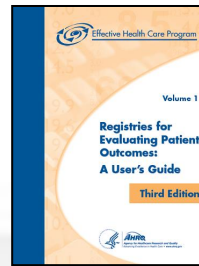
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2007

2<sup>nd</sup> edition, September, 2010



- 55 contributors from industry, academia, health plans, physician societies and gov't
- 49 invited peer reviewers and public comment, including OCR, OHRP, IOM
- 38 case studies illustrate challenges and solutions

# Volume 1



## **Section I: Creating Registries**

1. Patient Registries
2. Planning a Registry
3. Registry Design
4. Data Elements for Registries
5. Use of Patient Reported Outcomes in Registries
6. Data Sources for Registries

## **Section II: Legal and Ethical Considerations for Registries**

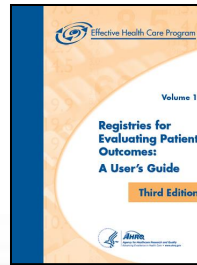
7. Ethics, Data Ownership, and Privacy

8. Informed Consent for Registries
9. Data Confidentiality & Legal Concerns

## **Section III: Operating Registries**

10. Recruiting and Retaining Participants in the Registry
11. Data Collection & Quality Assurance
12. Adverse Event Detection, Processing, and Reporting
13. Analysis & Interpretation
14. Modifying & Stopping Registries

# Volume 2



## **Section IV: Technical, Legal and Analytic Considerations for Combining Registry Data With Other Data Sources**

- 15. Interfacing Registries With Electronic Health Records
- 16. Linking Registry Data With Other Data Sources To Support New Studies
- 17. Managing Patient Identity Across Data Sources
- 18. Analysis of Linked Data Sets

## **Section V: Special Applications in Patient Registries**

- 19. Use of Registries in Product Safety Assessment
- 20. Rare Disease Registries
- 21. Pregnancy Registries
- 22. Quality Improvement Registries
- 23. Registries for Medical Devices
- 24. Public-Private Partnership

## **Section VI: Evaluating Registries**

- 25. Assessing Quality

# Evaluating Quality

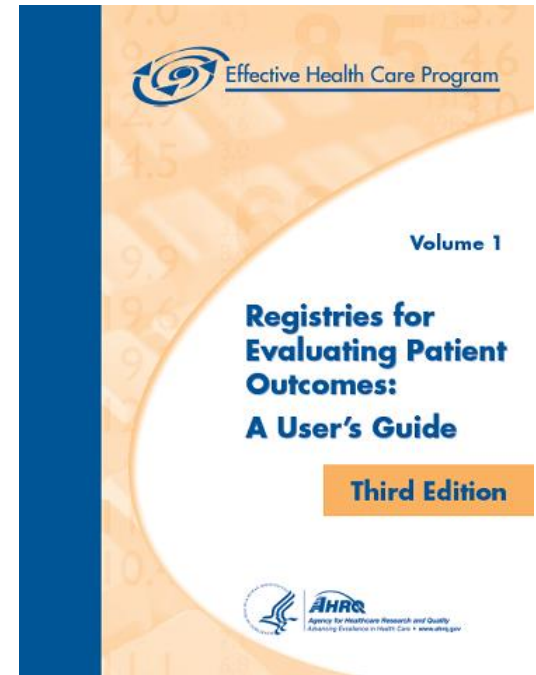
*There are levels of rigor that enhance validity and make the information from some registries more useful for guiding decisions*

## Quality components

- Research quality (scientific process)
- Evidence quality (data/findings)

## Components classified as

- Basic Good Registry Practice (Essential) or
- Potential Enhancements to Good Registry Practice (Further Indicators of Quality)



Gliklich RE, Dreyer NA, eds. *Registries for Evaluating Patient Outcomes: A User's Guide*. Prepared by Outcome DEcIDE Center [Outcome Sciences, Inc. dba Outcome] under Contract No. HHS290200500351 TO1. AHRQ Publication No. 07-EHC001-1. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, April, 2014



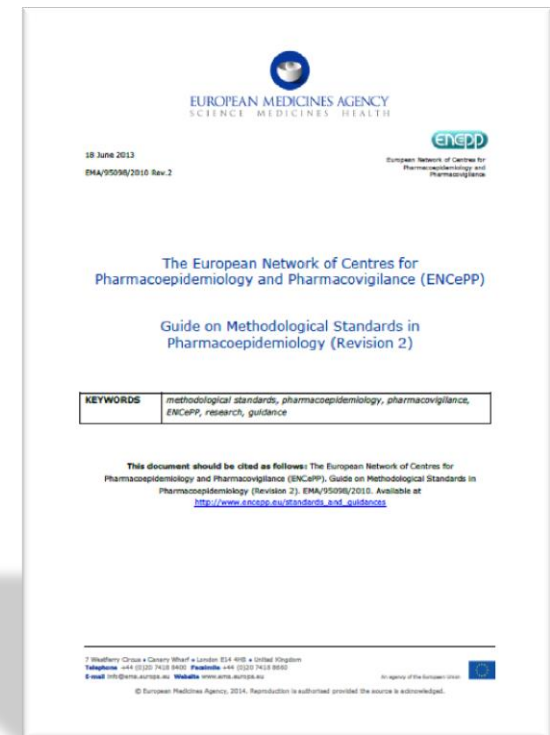
## European Network of Centers for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance

- > Code of Conduct affirms many good practices, such as the right of the principal investigator to independently prepare study publications
- > Methodological Guidance
- > Checklist for Protocols
- > Studies may be registered; offers an ENCePP Seal of Approval for registered studies
- > ENCePP maintains a registry of studies

[www.encepp.eu](http://www.encepp.eu)

# ENCePP Guide on Methodological Standards in Pharmacoepidemiology (Version 2)\*

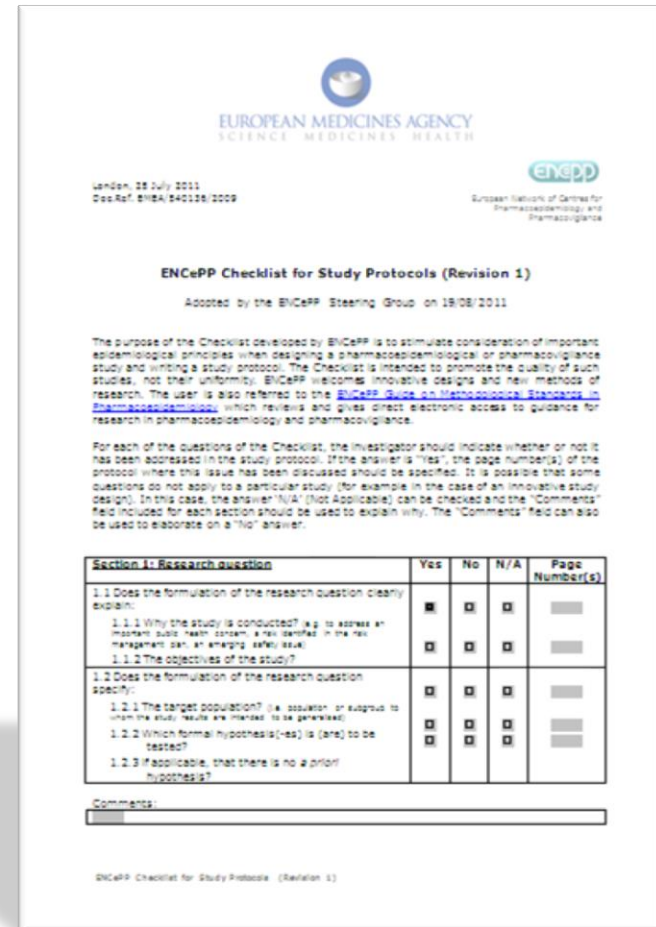
- First published 17 May 2011; last updated 18 June 2013
- Drives high scientific standards
- Contents:
  - > General aspects of study protocol
  - > Research question
  - > Approaches to data collection
  - > Study design and methods
  - > Statistical and epidemiological analysis plan
  - > Quality control and quality assurance
  - > Reporting of adverse events to regulatory authorities
  - > Communication



\*European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (ENCePP). Guide on Methodological Standards in Pharmacoepidemiology (Revision 2). EMA/95098/2010. Available at [http://www.encepp.eu/standards\\_and\\_guidances](http://www.encepp.eu/standards_and_guidances).

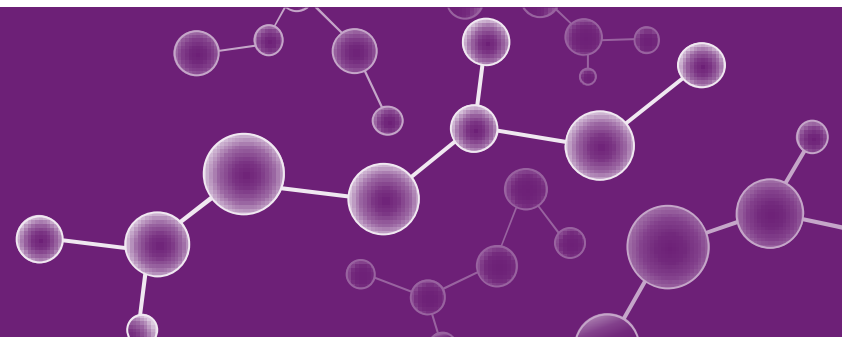
# ENCePP Checklist for Study Protocols

- Objectives:
  - > Stimulate researchers to consider important epidemiological principles when designing a pharmacoepidemiological study and writing a study protocol;
  - > Promote transparency regarding methodologies and design used in pharmacoepidemiological studies performed in the EU;
  - > Increase awareness about developments in science and methodology in the field of pharmacoepidemiology.
- Checklist is intended to promote the quality of studies and not their uniformity

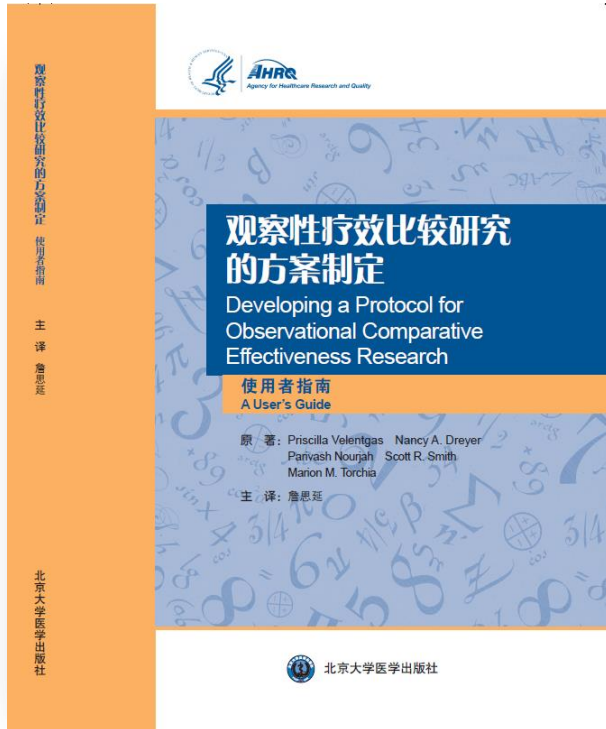


ENCePP Checklist for Study Protocols (Version 1). Available at [http://www.encepp.eu/standards\\_and\\_guidances/index.html](http://www.encepp.eu/standards_and_guidances/index.html)

# *Special applications for Comparative Effectiveness*



# Guide to Study Design for Observational Comparative Effectiveness Studies



Provides guidance and describes best practices for the design of observational CER studies

- Minimal standards and
- Best practices

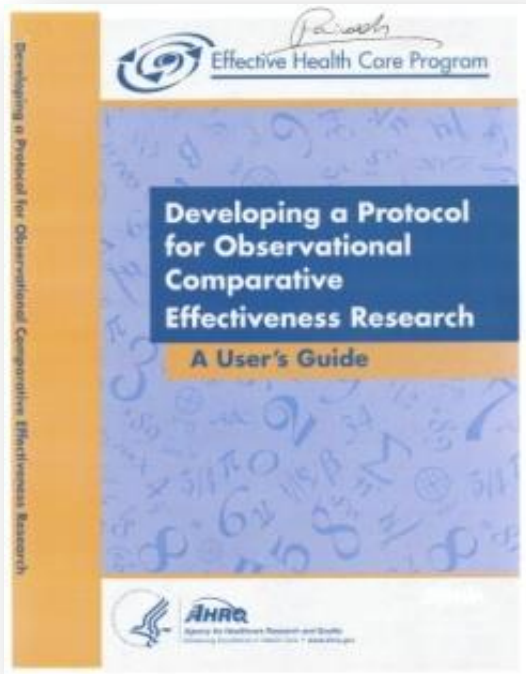
>50 authors & reviewers -- all thought leaders in epidemiology, biostatistics, and/or medicine, from academia, government, and industry

Covers all aspects of study design, analysis, and causal inference

1<sup>st</sup> published in English January 2013. Available at <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov>

Chinese edition published August 2014

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## grace

Good ReseArch for Comparative Effectiveness

[Home](#)   [the GRACE Initiative »](#)   [Publications & Citations](#)   [Contributors](#)   [Contact Us](#)

## Promoting High Quality Observational Research

The goal of the GRACE initiative is to enhance the quality of observational comparative effectiveness research (CER), and to facilitate its use for decision-making about therapeutic alternatives.

### GRACE Principles



Designed as a set of high-level questions, the

### GRACE Checklist



The GRACE Checklist is designed to guide the

### News

The GRACE Initiative has been recently cited in the following publications. For a complete listing, see Publications & Citations:

A Format for Submission of Clinical and Economic Evidence of Pharmaceuticals in Support of Formulary Consideration

*Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy: The AMCP Format for Formulary Submissions, Version 3.1, Dec 2012. See [www.amcp.org/data/jmcp](http://www.amcp.org/data/jmcp), p33.*

Review of Quality Assessment Tools for the Evaluation of

# GRACE

## *Good ReseArch for Comparative Effectiveness*

The goal of the GRACE initiative is to enhance the quality of observational comparative effectiveness research (CER), and to facilitate its use for decision-making about therapeutic alternatives.

### GRACE Principles



### GRACE Checklist



<http://www.graceprinciples.org/index.html>



# GRACE Principles

- A set of high-level questions, the GRACE Principles layout the elements of good practice for the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting of observational CER studies.
- The GRACE Principles are endorsed by the International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology and supported by a number of professionals and organizations.

## GRACE Principles



[GRACE Principles: Recognizing High-Quality Observational Studies of Comparative Effectiveness](#)

Dreyer NA, Schneeweiss S, McNeil BJ, et al. *Am J Manag Care*. 2010;16(6):467-471

# GRACE Validated Checklist & Scoring Guide

11 question: 6 about data & 5 about methods

## Population

- New initiators or recipients of treatment

## Treatment

- Adequate detail recorded

## Comparators

- Concurrent are most desirable

## Outcomes

- Adequate detail recorded
- Measured objectively
- Measured similarly in all arms
- Validated or adjudicated

## Covariates

- Recorded
- Accounted for in analysis

## Assessment of Bias

- Sensitivity analysis
- Check for immortal time bias

\*See GRACE Checklist. J Managed Care Pharmacy 2014;20(3):301-8

# GRACE Classification & Regression Tree (CART) For Studies of Drugs, Medical Devices & Procedures

If  $\geq 1$  comparison groups were used, were they concurrent comparators? If not, was the use of historical comparator groups justified? [Question M2]

If YES, was primary outcome(s) measured or identified in an equivalent manner between the treatment/ intervention group and the comparison group(s)? [Question D5]

If NO/ NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION is reported, the article is considered **insufficient quality.**

If YES, were important covariates that may be known confounders or effect modifiers available and recorded? [Question D6]

If NO/NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION is reported, the article is considered **insufficient quality.**

If YES, the article is considered sufficient quality for purpose.

If NO/NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION reported, were any meaningful analyses conducted to test key assumptions on which primary results are based? [Question M5]



The European Network of Centres for  
Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (ENCePP)

Guide on Methodological Standards in  
Pharmacoepidemiology (Revision 2)

*Cited by  
the EMA*

<b>KEYWORDS</b>	<i>methodological standards, pharmacoepidemiology, pharmacovigilance, ENCePP, research, guidance</i>
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**This document should be cited as follows:** The European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (ENCePP). Guide on Methodological Standards in Pharmacoepidemiology (Revision 2). EMA/95098/2010. Available at [http://www.encepp.eu/standards\\_and\\_guidances](http://www.encepp.eu/standards_and_guidances)

AHRQ's [Developing a Protocol for Observational Comparative Effectiveness Research: A User's Guide](#) identifies minimal standards and best practices for observational CER. It provides principles on a wide range of topics for designing research and developing protocols, with relevant questions to be addressed and checklists of key elements to be considered. The [GRACE Principles](#) provide guidance on the evaluation of the quality of observational CER studies to help decision-makers in recognizing high-quality studies and researchers in study design and conduct. A checklist to evaluate the quality of observational CER studies is also provided.

# Registration of Observational Studies

## Registration of other studies - particularly observational studies

There are no fixed rules about the registration of studies or about the use and provision of study

protocols,

protocols a

participant

Observation

research b

submitted

There are **no fixed rules about the registration of studies** or about the use and provision of study protocols, **other than for clinical trials**. However, the BMJ actively supports the registration of protocols and results in publicly accessible registries for all types of study involving human participants, **particularly observational studies**

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- the protocol, if one exists - uploaded as a supplemental file to the submitted paper
- a clear statement of whether the study hypothesis arose before or after inspection of the data (and, if afterwards, we will need an explanation of steps taken to minimise bias)
- a completed **STROBE** checklist - uploaded as a supplemental file to the submitted paper. We will pay particular attention to these items which ask authors to "explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported" and "state specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses."

<http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/article-types/research>

# Registration of Observational Studies in RoPR via clinicaltrials.gov

1. Register the registry in **ClinicalTrials.gov**
2. Select “patient registry” as the study type and enter initial data elements
3. Click to complete the registration in RoPR
4. Enter remaining data elements in RoPR and submit for posting

**ROPR** REGISTRY of PATIENT REGISTRIES

Completion Status: 0 of 6 Sections 0 % Completed

**OVERVIEW**

- Registry Description
- Registry Classification and Purpose
- Contact and Conditions of Access
- Progress Report
- Related Information
- Outcome Measures and Common Data Elements

**PREVIEW**

SAVE/RELEASE REGISTRY PROFILE

Welcome to RoPR - Registry Profile Overview

E-Mail:

Confirm:

*This email will only be used by RRS.*

Registry Description.....	NEW
Registry Classification and Purpose.....	NEW
Contact and Conditions of Access.....	NEW
Related Information.....	NEW
Progress Report.....	NEW
Outcome Measures and Common Data Elements.....	NEW

**UPLOAD REGISTRY RECORD**

Import and upload XML files

[Patient Registry Record Schema](#)

**ROPR HELP**

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Upload of Registry Profile Help](#)
- [Policies and Procedures Documentation](#)
- [E-mail Contact for RoPR Administrators](#)

*Note: Registry registration in RoPR is voluntary*

*Launched in September 2012*

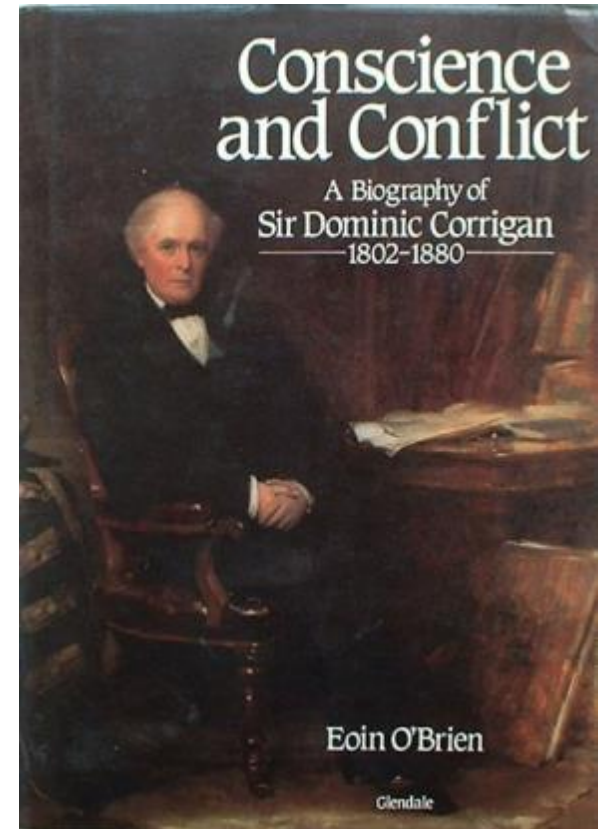
# Question: which statement is true?

- a) There is no acceptance guidance for good practice of prospective observational studies (patient registries).
- b) Randomized controlled trials and prospective observational studies should use the same procedures for study design
- c) Prospective and retrospective observational studies are held to the same standards of quality
- d) There are guidance documents for prospective observational studies (patient registries) that are used in the US, Europe and some Asian countries.

## Closing Thought

“Whether my observations and opinions be disproved or supported, I shall be equally satisfied. Truth is the prize aimed for; and, in the contest, there is at least this consolation, that all the competitors may share equally the good attained.”\*

Sir Dominic Corrigan



\*O'Brien E: Lancet 1980;2:1356-7

# Contact Information

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