

## **Momentum in MDS: Making Progress and Shaping a Better Future**

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### **An Update: The New MDS International Guidelines**

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#### **Abstract**

In February 2022, Dr Eva Hellstrom-Lindberg of the Karolinska institute assembled a group of MDS experts to 'internationalize' the European MDS treatment guidelines developed 2018-2020 and hosted on EUMDS/MDS-RIGHT website. The MDS-Foundation also collaborated on this initiative.

The experts were divided into 5 working groups, each with 2 co-chairs. These working groups were tasked with updating and adapting the existing guidelines for international application and relevance. The 5 working groups included diagnosis, prognosis, germline conditions (WG1), iron chelation, supportive care, immunosuppressive therapy and lenalidomide (WG2), growth factors, luspatercept and non-HMA low dose chemotherapies (WG3), HMA-based and non-approved therapies (WG4) and induction chemotherapy and stem cell transplantation (WG5).

A literature review was coordinated through scientific education support (SES) contracted by MDS-HUB, with literature search criteria dictated by each working group.

Each working group reviewed pertinent literature to guide and refine the pre-existing guidelines. The members applied recommendations according to GRADE methodology by evaluating the quality of evidence (very low, low, moderate and high) and providing strength of recommendations (low, moderate, high).

Using a case-based method, Dr Buckstein will demonstrate the practical use of these international MDS guidelines and instruct on how busy practicing clinicians may navigate their pages in their practices.