EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDELINES VERSUS SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS:

THE APPLICATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE IN AN AID ORGANISATION

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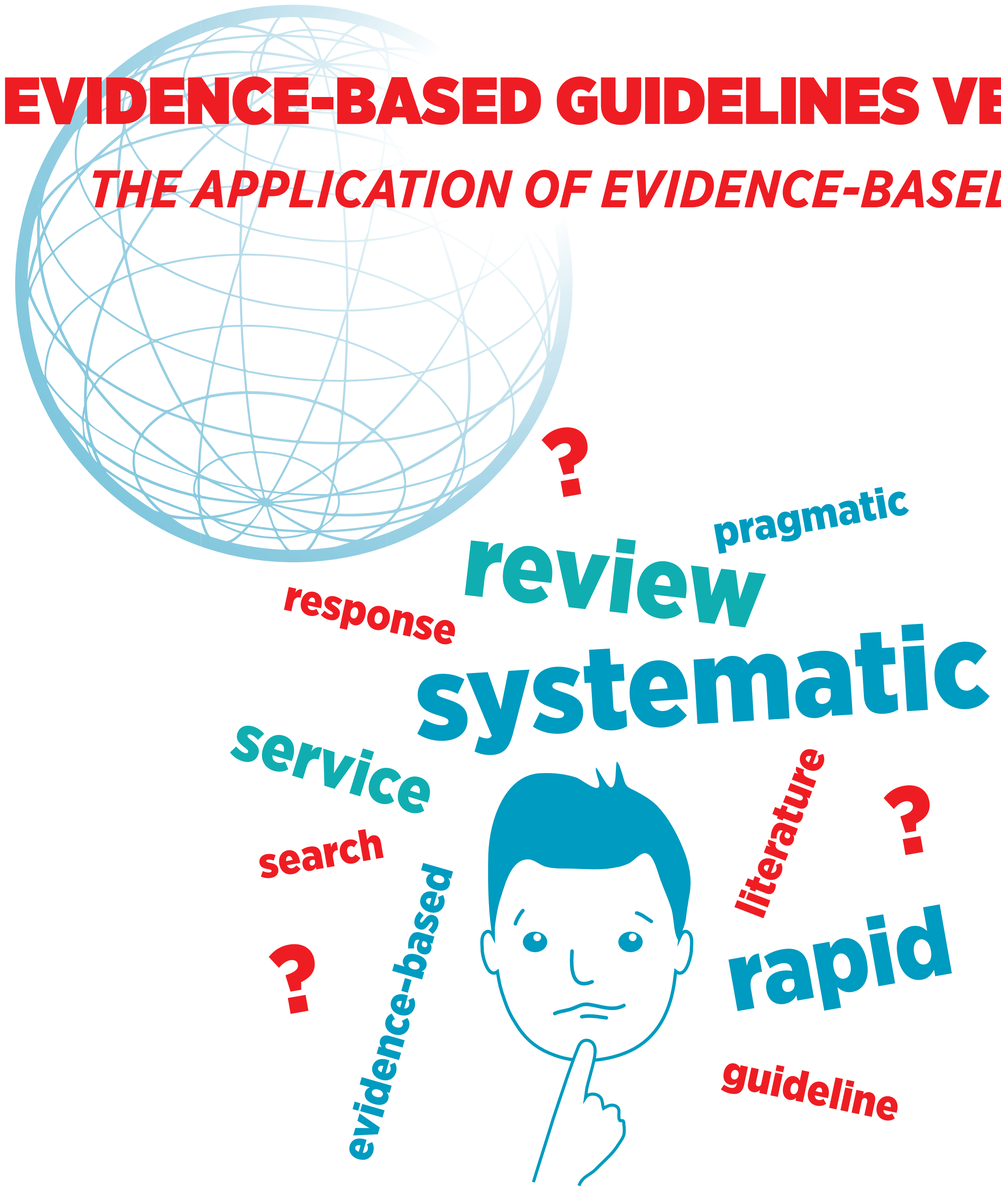


BACKGROUND

In searching for a method to develop guidelines and systematic reviews, Belgian Red Cross-Flanders encountered a wide variety in the terminology and methodology used in Evidence-Based Practice.
A few examples are:

- 'systematic review'
- 'systematic literature search'
- 'evidence-based guideline'
- 'rapid review'
- 'pragmatic systematic review'
- 'rapid response service'

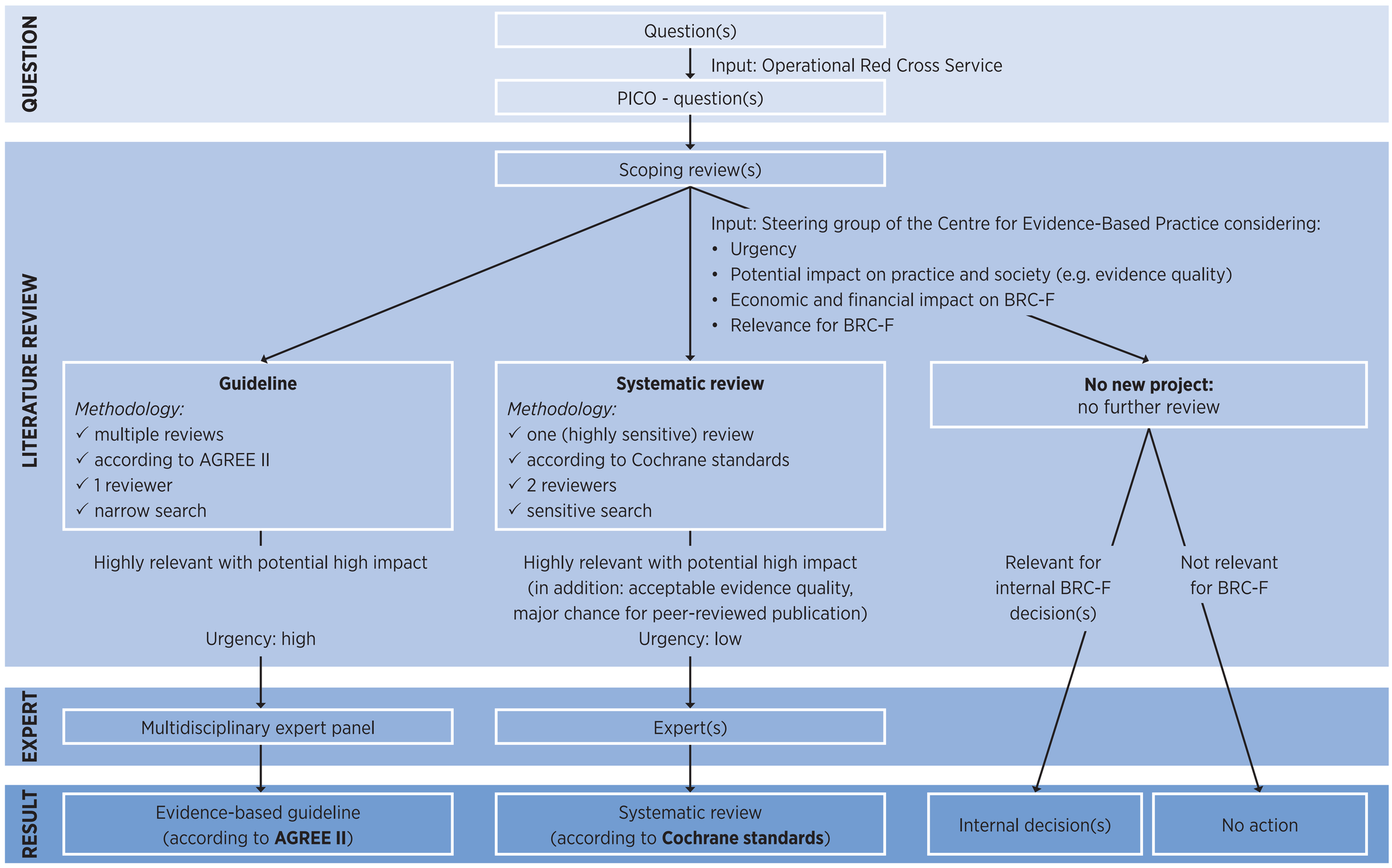
This raises some **questions** e.g. what are the definitions of the different terms? Which methodology was used to perform the literature review?
The **aim** of **Belgian Red Cross-Flanders** is to clearly document its terminology, methodology and approach when developing guidelines and systematic reviews in a timely and cost effective way.

METHODS AND RESULTS

Within its charter, the Centre for Evidence-Based Practice of Belgian Red Cross-Flanders clearly documents the methodology to develop evidence-based guidelines and systematic reviews in a timely and cost conscious way.

FIGURE

Approach from practical question until the final result described in the methodological charter of the Centre for Evidence-Based Practice of Belgian Red Cross-Flanders (BRC-F)



DISCUSSION

A methodology for the development of practice guidelines that takes into account time and resource constraints could be **inspiring for other (aid) organisations** who want to use the evidence-based methodology to support their activities.

Additionally, it was recommended that authors of guidelines and systematic reviews document the **methodology** in a **clear** and **transparent** manner, e.g. with the inclusion of a clear method section within the guidelines and/or by publishing a **methodological charter**.

MORE INFORMATION?

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Realized by the centre for
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE
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