

A guide to NICE / National Institute for Clinical Excellence.

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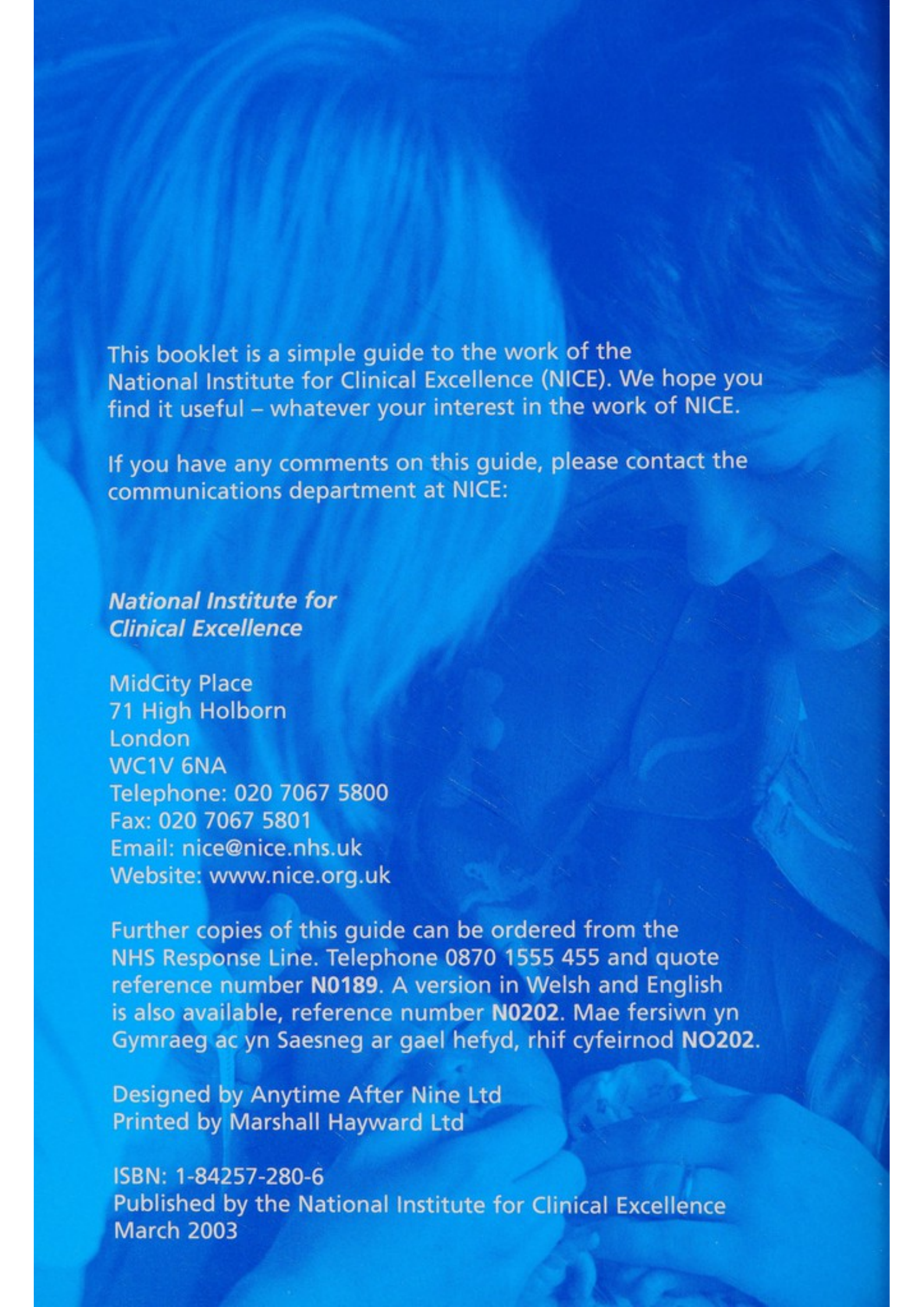
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A guide to NICE



This booklet is a simple guide to the work of the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE). We hope you find it useful – whatever your interest in the work of NICE.

If you have any comments on this guide, please contact the communications department at NICE:

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Further copies of this guide can be ordered from the NHS Response Line. Telephone 0870 1555 455 and quote reference number **N0189**. A version in Welsh and English is also available, reference number **N0202**. Mae fersiwn yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg ar gael hefyd, rhif cyfeirnod **N0202**.

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Section 1

General information about NICE

What is NICE?

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) is part of the National Health Service (NHS). It is the independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on treatments and care for people using the NHS in England and Wales. Its guidance is for healthcare professionals and patients and their carers to help them make decisions about treatment and healthcare.

NICE was established as a Special Health Authority in April 1999, to promote clinical excellence and the effective use of resources within the NHS.

What are the roles and responsibilities of NICE?

Currently NICE produces guidance in three areas of health:

- the use of new and existing medicines and treatments within the NHS in England and Wales – technology appraisals
- the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS in England and Wales – clinical guidelines
- whether interventional procedures used for diagnosis or treatment are safe enough and work well enough for routine use – interventional procedures.

NICE also funds four enquiries that undertake research into the way patients are treated to identify ways of improving the quality of care (the investigations are known as confidential enquiries).

Does NICE cover the whole of the UK?

No, NICE produces guidance for the NHS in England and Wales. Guidance for the NHS in Scotland is developed by NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (technology appraisals)¹ and the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)². The Northern Ireland Executive³ is in the process of deciding who will develop guidance for the NHS in Northern Ireland, and you can find out more from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS)⁴.

How does NICE fit into the NHS?

NICE's role was set out in *The New NHS, Modern and Dependable* and *NHS Wales, Putting Patients First*. Further information can be found in *A First Class Service: Quality in the New NHS*, published by the Department of Health, and *Quality Care and Clinical Excellence*, published by the Welsh Assembly Government. Visit the Department of Health website at www.doh.gov.uk and the Welsh Assembly Government website at www.wales.gov.uk.

NICE and the National Service Frameworks (produced by the Department of Health and Welsh Assembly Government) are responsible for setting clear national standards for NHS services and treatments.

¹ For more information visit www.nhshealthquality.org

² For more information visit www.sign.ac.uk

³ For more information visit www.northernireland.gov.uk

⁴ For more information visit www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Local NHS organisations are responsible for delivering high-quality healthcare. This is done through 'clinical governance' (a framework through which NHS organisations are accountable for continuously improving standards of care), underpinned by modernised self-regulation of health professionals and continuing professional education.

The Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) is responsible for monitoring progress, and you can find more about its work at www.chi.nhs.uk. In April 2004 a new organisation, the Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection, will be established.

The English⁵ and Welsh⁶ 10-year plans for the NHS set out measures to put patients and people at the heart of the health service. The plans include a number of new agencies that work with NICE, including the Modernisation Agency⁷ which plays a crucial role in ensuring commitments are translated into reality. The Agency helps NHS staff and NHS organisations such as NHS Trusts and Primary Care Trusts to improve services for patients.

In addition, measures have been brought in to give more power to frontline staff and patients in the NHS with the aim of fostering a new patient-centred culture.

The main feature of change has been to give locally based primary care organisations the role of running the NHS and improving health in their areas. This has meant abolishing the previous Health Authorities and creating new ones that serve larger areas and have a more strategic role. Primary care organisations are required to make funding and resources available to enable NICE's guidance on health treatments to be implemented.

⁵ The NHS Plan, July 2000

⁶ Improving Health in Wales, January 2001

⁷ For more information visit www.modern.nhs.uk

Why was NICE established?

All healthcare workers want to give their patients the best possible care but, in common with health professionals in other parts of the world, healthcare workers in the UK face two major problems.

- The rate of scientific and clinical discovery is so fast that it is hard for individuals to stay at the leading edge of knowledge.
- The demand for healthcare is greater than the resources available, for a number of reasons. These include: past successes; the use of new treatments without adequate evidence of how well they work, or how well they work in relation to how much they cost; delay in introducing new treatments (even when they have been shown to be clinically effective and value for money); carrying on doing things even though they are known not to work.

This has resulted in unacceptable variations in the quality of care available for patients in different parts of the country (so-called 'postcode prescribing').

NICE was established to produce clear national guidance, as a part of the process for improving the quality of healthcare across England and Wales.

Who chooses the topics for NICE's work programme?

The Department of Health and the Welsh Assembly Government are responsible for selecting the topics for the NICE work programme. Full details of the process they follow can be found on the Department of Health website at www.doh.gov.uk/nice/consultation2002.

What impact does NICE have on the NHS and health professionals?

Once NICE guidance is published, health professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgment. However, NICE guidance does not override the individual responsibility of health professionals to make appropriate decisions according to the circumstances of the individual patient in consultation with the patient and/or their guardian or carer. For example, if an individual patient was allergic to a recommended drug it would be appropriate for their health professional to prescribe an alternative.

Since January 2002, the NHS has been obliged to provide funding and resources for medicines and treatments recommended by NICE through its technology appraisals work programme. The NHS normally has 3 months from the date of publication of each technology appraisal guidance to provide funding and resources. Treatment will only be provided if a doctor or nurse, after discussing the options with the patient, thinks that this is the right choice for that patient.

Local NHS organisations are expected to meet the costs of medicines and treatments recommended by NICE out of their general annual allocations. There is no statutory requirement to fund the other areas of NICE's work and the local NHS should explain to patients and carers any decisions they have made.

What impact does NICE have on patients?

NICE will provide authoritative, timely advice on the effectiveness of potential treatments and the best clinical practice, and make sure this information reaches patients

and the NHS. It impacts on patients by standardising access to healthcare across the country, creating national, rather than regional, standards of treatment.

What impact does NICE have on the healthcare industries (manufacturers of medicines and devices)?

NICE is asked to look at particular drugs and devices where the availability of the drug or device varies across England and Wales or where there is confusion or uncertainty over the value of a drug or device. To end this uncertainty, NICE makes a national decision over its use.

NICE does not have responsibility for the licensing of drugs or devices. In the UK, drugs are licensed by the Medicines Control Agency⁸ (MCA) and devices are licensed for use by the Medical Devices Agency⁹ (MDA). In April 2003 the MCA and MDA will merge to form the new Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Most licensed drugs and devices are assessed at a local level within the NHS, through local prescribing arrangements, to determine whether local hospitals and primary care organisations will use them.

If a drug or device is currently being appraised by NICE, NHS organisations should make decisions on its use locally, using their usual arrangements.

Once NICE has issued its guidance, this replaces the local decisions and promotes equal access for patients across England and Wales.

⁸ For more information visit www.mca.gov.uk

⁹ For more information visit www.medical-devices.gov.uk

Section 2

Technology appraisals

What are technology appraisals?

Technology appraisals are recommendations on the use of new and existing medicines and treatments within the NHS in England and Wales, such as:

- medicines
- medical devices (for example, hearing aids or inhalers)
- diagnostic techniques (tests used to identify diseases)
- surgical procedures (for example, repairing hernias)
- health promotion activities (for example, ways of helping people with diabetes manage their condition).

NICE recommendations are based on a review of clinical and economic evidence. Clinical evidence measures how well the medicine or treatment works, and economic evidence, put simply, is a measure of how well the medicine or treatment works in relation to how much it costs – does it represent good value for money? NICE acknowledges that something can be both expensive and good value for money.

What are technology appraisals for?

NICE is asked to look at particular drugs and devices where the availability of the drug or device varies across England and Wales or where there is confusion or uncertainty over its value. To end this uncertainty, NICE makes a national decision on its use.

Since January 2002, the NHS has been legally obliged to provide funding and resources for medicines and treatments recommended by NICE as a part of its technology appraisals programme (see page 6).

How does NICE carry out its technology appraisals?

The appraisal process is scheduled to be completed within 62 weeks from the start of the process to the close of appeal. Once guidance has been published there is no further right of appeal. However, all NICE guidance is reviewed at regular intervals (between 1 and 3 years) to make sure that any new evidence on the relevant medicine or treatment is taken into account. The NICE technology appraisals process is summarised in the diagram on pages 10 and 11.



Technology appraisals – the process

Technologies are referred to NICE by the Secretary of State for Health and by the Welsh Assembly Government.



NICE identifies and consults with the stakeholder organisations that will be involved. Stakeholders include patient/carer organisations, healthcare professional bodies, and manufacturers.



NICE consults with stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal. The scope identifies the elements the appraisal will address (for example, the patient population involved and the evidence sources that will be accessed).



NICE commissions (through NHS Research and Development) an independent academic centre to prepare an independent review of the published evidence (an assessment report) on the technology.



The Appraisal Committee meets to consider the assessment report and evidence (verbal and written) from stakeholders, nominated experts and patients, and a number of representative NHS organisations.

The Committee makes preliminary recommendations based on the evidence it has seen and heard (the document produced is called an Appraisal Consultation Document – ACD).

Stakeholders can comment on the Committee's preliminary views during a 4-week consultation period. Individuals can also access the assessment report and ACD on the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk and send their own feedback directly to NICE.

The Committee meets again to consider the comments that have been submitted, and prepares its final recommendations and submits them to NICE (the document produced is called a Final Appraisal Determination – FAD). This document is published on the NICE website for information.

As a part of the process, NICE then offers stakeholder organisations the opportunity to appeal against the final recommendations.

If there are no appeals, then the final recommendations become the basis of the guidance that is sent by NICE to the NHS.

An appeal is made and upheld, and NICE makes amendments to the guidance in line with the Appeal Panel's comments.

An appeal is made and upheld, and NICE asks the independent committee to look again at the evidence and the recommendations, bearing in mind the Appeal Panel's comments.

Guidance issued to the NHS.

What is the Appraisal Committee?

NICE technology appraisal recommendations are prepared by an independent committee, which includes healthcare professionals working in the NHS and people who are familiar with the issues affecting patients and carers. Although the Appraisal Committee seeks the views of organisations representing healthcare professionals, patients and carers, manufacturers and government, its advice is independent of any vested interests.



ACDs/FADs – what are they, and what stage of the process do they represent?

- Appraisal Consultation Documents (ACDs) set out the independent advisory committee's initial recommendations to NICE, based on the evidence for specific medicines and treatments.
- Final Appraisal Determinations (FADs) set out the Appraisal Committee's final recommendations to NICE on specific medicines and treatments, following consultation, and are used as a basis for NICE guidance.

How can I submit evidence?

Organisations representing patients, carers, healthcare professionals and manufacturers have the opportunity to be involved throughout the process as stakeholders.

They can submit evidence to the Appraisal Committee, comment on the scope of the work, recommend who the consultees should be and comment on the independent assessment report.

Professionals and patient/carer organisations can nominate experts and patients to speak directly to the Committee, and to participate in consultation on the Committee's provisional views.

The stakeholders are all consulted on the Committee's initial review of the evidence and have the opportunity to consider whether they wish to appeal against the Committee's final decision. Information, including the assessment report and documents reflecting the Committee's initial and final views, is posted on the NICE website during the process.

When the Committee's initial recommendations are published on the NICE website (in the form of an ACD), members of the public and individual health professionals can send their own feedback directly to NICE.

A series of booklets explaining the appraisal process has been published by NICE. The booklets can be obtained from the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk) or from the NHS Response Line (Tel: 0870 1555 455).

1. *Guide to the Technology Appraisal Process* (Ref. No: N0010)
2. *Guidance for Appellants* (Ref. No: N0011)
3. *Guidance for Patient/Carer Groups* (Ref. No: N0012)

4. *Guidance for Healthcare Professional Groups* (Ref. No: N0013)
5. *Guidance for Manufacturers and Sponsors* (Ref. No: N0014).

These booklets will be reviewed and updated in 2003.

What happens if an appeal is made?

As a part of the process, NICE offers stakeholder organisations the opportunity to appeal against the final recommendations (the FAD). If there are no appeals, or appeals are heard but not upheld, then the final recommendations become the guidance that is sent by NICE to the NHS. If an appeal is upheld, NICE asks the Appraisal Committee to look again at the evidence and its recommendations, bearing in mind the Appeal Panel's comments.

Where can I find out about forthcoming appraisals?

For further information on forthcoming appraisals please visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk and click on **technology appraisals**.

NICE also produces a monthly e-newsletter, which gives details of forthcoming technology appraisals. To subscribe to the e-newsletter free of charge please visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk to register your details.

Where can I get a copy of NICE guidance?

You can download copies of completed NICE guidance from the website at www.nice.org.uk. Alternatively, you can phone the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455 and ask for a printed copy.

The Institute produces a compilation of guidance every 6 months. To order a copy of the latest compilation phone 0870 1555 455, or you can download a copy from the NICE website.

Section 3

Clinical guidelines

What are NICE clinical guidelines?

Clinical guidelines are recommendations on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS in England and Wales. They are based on the best available evidence. Guidelines help healthcare professionals in their work, but they do not replace their knowledge and skills.

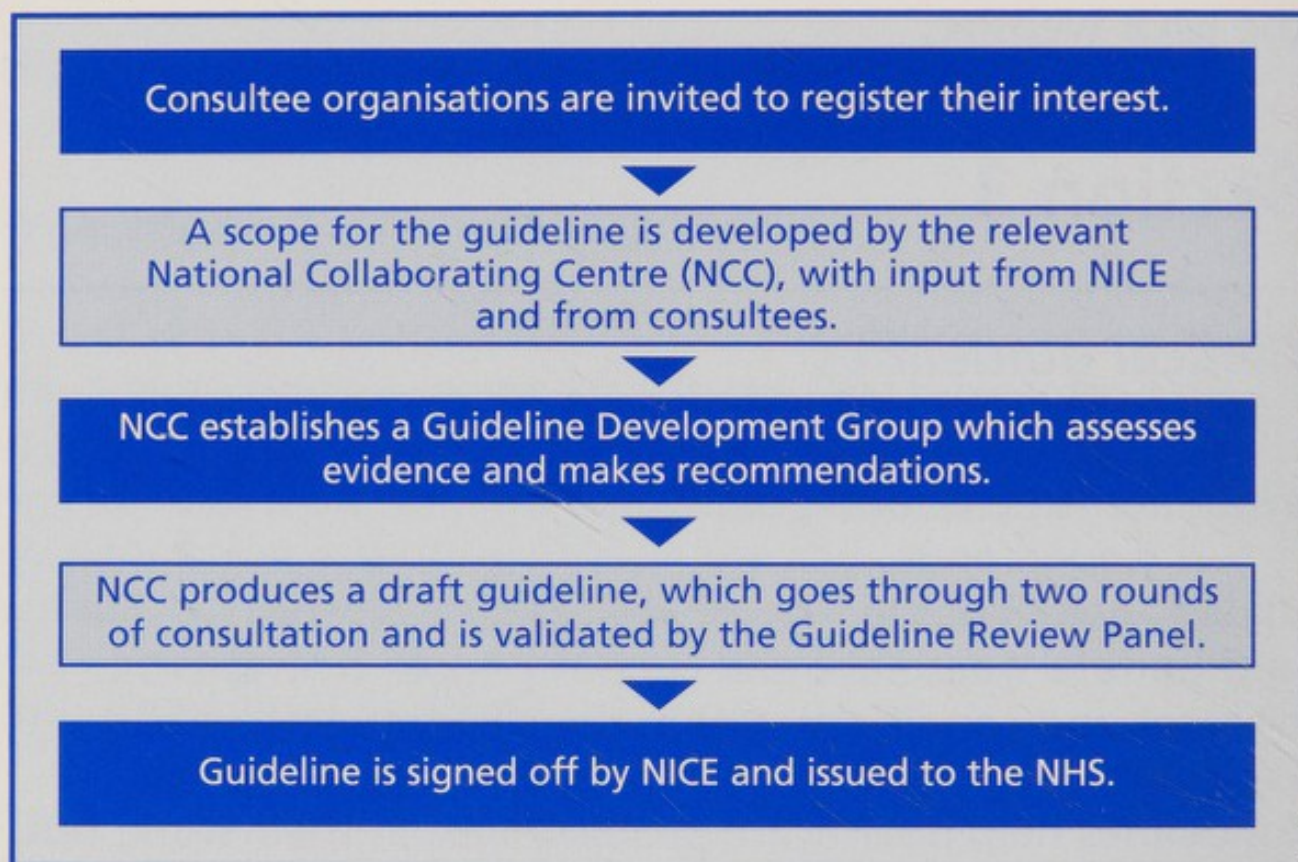
What are clinical guidelines for?

Good clinical guidelines can change the process of healthcare and improve outcomes. For example, well-constructed and up-to-date clinical guidelines:

- provide recommendations for the treatment and care of people by health professionals
- can be used to develop standards to assess the clinical practice of health professionals
- can be used in the education and training of health professionals
- can help patients to make informed decisions, and improve communication between the patient and health professional.

How does NICE develop its clinical guidelines?

The guidelines development process is summarised below.



What are the National Collaborating Centres?

NICE has established a number of National Collaborating Centres (NCCs) to harness the expertise of the Royal Medical Colleges, professional bodies and patient/carer organisations when developing clinical guidelines. Each NCC is a professionally-led group with the experience and resources to develop guidance for the NHS on behalf of NICE.

Currently, the NCCs are the:

- NCC for Acute Care
- NCC for Chronic Conditions
- NCC for Nursing and Supportive Care
- NCC for Mental Health
- NCC for Primary Care
- NCC for Women and Children's Health.

NICE is also establishing a National Collaborating Centre for Cancer.

For details of the member organisations of the NCCs, visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk.

What are the Guideline Development Groups?

An NCC sets up an independent Guideline Development Group to develop each guideline. The members of the Guideline Development Group have experience and expertise relevant to the guideline topic. They include healthcare professionals and patient/carer representatives.

The Guideline Development Group looks at the evidence available and considers comments made on two draft versions of the guideline issued for consultation before making final recommendations.



The NCC produces three versions of each guideline: the full guideline, which contains all of the evidence considered in developing the guideline; the NICE guideline, which contains recommendations for the NHS; and a third version ('information for the public') that is written for people without specialist medical knowledge. The NICE guideline and the information for the public are published by NICE; the full version of the guideline is

published by the National Collaborating Centre, and is also available from the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk).

What are Guideline Review Panels?

NICE has established a number of Guideline Review Panels, each consisting of four or five members, including a chair and deputy. Each Guideline Review Panel is aligned with one of the NCCs that manage the development of clinical guidelines for NICE. The panels are responsible for validating the final full guideline, paying particular attention to the guideline developers' responses to comments received during consultation.

How can I get involved?

NICE lists the guideline topics in its work programme on its website. National organisations representing patients and carers and healthcare professionals involved in their care are then able to register their interest in particular topics. These groups, together with representative NHS organisations, are consulted throughout the guideline development process. They are involved at the beginning of the process when the scope of the guideline is being established and in commenting on the draft versions of the guideline. Groups that have registered an interest are invited to nominate people to join the Guideline Development Group.

To support patient involvement in the development of its guidelines, NICE has established a Patient Involvement Unit for NICE (the PIU), which is based at the College of Health (a national charity that promotes patient interests in the NHS). The PIU provides advice to NICE and the NCCs on patient and carer involvement, and support and training

to patients and carers who are involved in Guideline Development Groups.

A series of booklets explaining the guideline development process has been published by NICE. They can be obtained from the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk) or from the NHS Response Line (telephone 0870 1555 455).

1. *The Guideline Development Process – Information for the Public and the NHS* (Ref. No: N0038)
2. *The Guideline Development Process – Information for Stakeholders* (Ref. No: N0039)
3. *The Guideline Development Process – Information for National Collaborating Centres and Guideline Development Groups* (Ref. No: N0040). This booklet is under review and an updated version is expected to be published during 2003.

Where can I find out about forthcoming guidelines?

For further information on forthcoming guidelines please visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk and click on **clinical guidelines**.

NICE also produces a monthly e-newsletter, which gives details of forthcoming clinical guidelines. To subscribe to the e-newsletter free of charge please visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk to register your details.

Where can I get a copy of NICE guidance?

You can download copies of completed NICE guidance from the website at www.nice.org.uk. Alternatively, you can phone the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455 and ask for a printed copy.

The Institute produces a compilation of guidance every 6 months. For copies of this compilation phone 0870 1555 455, or you can download a copy from the NICE website.

Section 4

Interventional procedures

What is an interventional procedure?

NICE makes recommendations about whether interventional procedures used for diagnosis or treatment are safe enough and work well enough for routine use. An interventional procedure is a procedure used for diagnosis or treatment that involves one of the following:

- making a cut or a hole to gain access to the inside of a patient's body – for example, when carrying out an operation or inserting a tube into a blood vessel
- gaining access to a body cavity (such as the digestive system, lungs, womb or bladder) without cutting into the body – for example, examining or carrying out treatment on the inside of the stomach using an instrument inserted via the mouth
- using electromagnetic radiation (which includes X-rays, lasers, gamma-rays and ultraviolet light) – for example, using a laser to treat eye problems.

What is this guidance for?

The aim of NICE's interventional procedures programme is to protect the safety of patients and to support health

professionals, healthcare organisations and the NHS as a whole in the process of introducing procedures.

Many of the procedures that NICE investigates are new, but it also looks at more established procedures if there is uncertainty about their safety or how well they work.

By reviewing evidence, facilitating data collection and analysis, and providing guidance on how safe procedures are and how well they work, NICE enables clinical innovation to be responsibly managed within the NHS.

What is the Interventional Procedures Advisory Committee?

NICE interventional procedure recommendations are prepared by an independent committee, which includes healthcare professionals working in the NHS and people who are familiar with the issues affecting patients and carers. The Committee takes advice from Specialist Advisors nominated by healthcare professional bodies with members who are involved in the use of interventional procedures.

How can I get involved?

Any individual or organisation can notify NICE about procedures that are being performed or are likely to be performed within the NHS. Procedures are most commonly notified by clinicians; they are responsible for notifying NICE when considering use of a procedure that they have not used before, or that they have only used outside the NHS. You can notify a procedure, or check whether a procedure has already been notified, by visiting the NICE website.

Each piece of interventional procedures guidance is published on the NICE website for a 4-week consultation

period. Professionals, patients and any other interested person or group can 'express an interest' in a procedure via the NICE website. Everyone who expresses an interest will be informed by email when consultation begins and will be able to submit comments via the NICE website or by post.

Where can I find out more about interventional procedures?

For further information on interventional procedures please visit the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk and click on **interventional procedures**.

Section 5

Confidential enquiries

What is a confidential enquiry?

NICE oversees four confidential enquiries that carry out research into the way patients are treated to identify ways of improving the quality of care.

The confidential enquiries cover suicide and homicide by people with mental illness, maternal deaths, sudden infant deaths, and deaths relating to surgery.

What is this guidance for?

The confidential enquiries publish reports summarising key findings and recommendations arising from the information they gather. They aim to identify changes in

practice that might improve the quality of clinical practice and reduce the number of deaths.

How can I find out more information on the confidential enquiries?

You can access further information about the confidential enquiries by logging on to the following websites:

- Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths (CEMD) – www.doh.gov.uk/cmo/mdeaths.htm
- Confidential Enquiry into Stillbirths and Deaths in Infancy (CESDI) – www.phru.org.uk/cesdi.htm
- National Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths (NCEPOD) – www.ncepod.org.uk/
- Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness (CISH) – www.man.ac.uk/psych/inquiry.html.

The Institute is combining CEMD and CESDI into a single new confidential enquiry from 1 April 2003, to be known as the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH). Further information about CEMACH will be available through the CEMD and CESDI websites following launch, and an updated CEMACH website will be developed during 2003.

Section 6

How does NICE make its information available?

On the fourth Wednesday of each month NICE sends completed guidance to a core list of people in the NHS (for

example, chief executives of NHS organisations). NICE also sends copies to health professionals working in the clinical or medical area covered by the guidance. All guidance is published on NICE's website (www.nice.org.uk) as it is released. Healthcare professionals, patients and members of the public can register on the NICE website to receive emails that tell them when new guidance is published.

NICE ensures that relevant journalists are kept informed about the guidance it issues so that decisions can be publicised through the broadcast and print media.

NICE also produces a monthly e-newsletter, which gives details of forthcoming guidance. To subscribe to the e-newsletter free of charge please visit the NICE website and register your details.

You can download copies of completed NICE guidance from the website at www.nice.org.uk or obtain a printed copy by phoning the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455.

In addition NICE makes its guidance available through the following channels:

- PRODIGY – the NHS's decision-support software for primary care prescribers (www.prodigy.nhs.uk/)
- NHS Direct online (www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/index.asp)
- the National Electronic Library for Health (www.nelh.nhs.uk/)
- patient/carer organisations
- partnerships with other 'closed' websites
- professional journals and other places where health professionals would seek information.

Every 6 months, a compilation of all NICE guidance is published and circulated to healthcare professionals. The compilation can also be downloaded from the NICE website.

Section 7

Quick reference section

Contacting NICE

Postal address:

NICE

MidCity Place

71 High Holborn

London

WC1V 6NA

Telephone: 020 7067 5800

Fax: 020 7067 5801

Email: nice@nice.nhs.uk

Website: www.nice.org.uk

How to order copies of NICE guidance

Visit the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk) or call the NHS Response Line on: 0870 1555 455 (fax: 01623 724 524), or email orders to doh@prolog.uk.com.

For all other queries, please contact NICE (contact details above).

Who's who at NICE

Non-Executive Directors

Sir Michael Rawlins – *Chairman*

Professor Tony Culyer CBE – *Vice Chairman*

Professor Leon Fine

Frederick George

Mercy Jeyasingham

Dr Susanna Lawrence OBE

Roy Luff OBE

Mary McClarey

Executive Directors

Andrew Dillon – *Chief Executive*

Professor Peter Littlejohns – *Clinical Director*

Anne-Toni Rodgers – *Corporate Affairs Director*

Andrea Sutcliffe – *Planning & Resources Director*

Committee Chairs

Professor David Barnett – *Chair of Appraisal Committee*

Professor Bruce Campbell – *Chair of Interventional Procedures Advisory Committee*

Partners Council – The Partners Council is appointed by the Secretary of State. It has a statutory duty to meet annually to review the Institute's Annual Report. The Partners Council also provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, concepts and future plans. Members include patients and representatives of patient-focused organisations, professional organisations and relevant healthcare industries.

Citizens Council – The Citizens Council brings the views of the public to NICE decision making about guidance for treatments and care in the NHS. Challenging value questions are addressed by a 30-strong group of men and women drawn from all walks of life.

Section 8

List of abbreviations

ACD	Appraisal Consultation Document
CEMACH	Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health
CEMD	Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths
CESDI	Confidential Enquiry into Stillbirths and Deaths in Infancy
CHI	Commission for Health Improvement
CISH	Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness
FAD	Final Appraisal Determination
NHS	National Health Service
NCC	National Collaborating Centre
NCEPOD	National Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths
NICE/the Institute	National Institute for Clinical Excellence
PIU	Patient Involvement Unit for NICE

Section 9

Other organisations

Contact details for other organisations are as follows:

Department of Health

Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS

Tel: 020 7210 4850

Text phone (minicom): 020 7210 5025

Email: dhmail@doh.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.doh.gov.uk

Welsh Assembly Government

National Assembly for Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ

Tel: 029 20 825111

Email: health.enquiries@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.wales.gov.uk

Commission for Health Improvement

1st Floor, Finsbury Tower,

103-105 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8TG

Tel: 020 7448 9200

Text phone (minicom): 020 7448 9292

Email: information@chi.nhs.uk

Website: www.chi.nhs.uk

Medicines Control Agency

(from April 2003 will form part of new MHRA)

Information Centre, MCA, 10-2 Market Towers,

1 Nine Elms Lane, Vauxhall, London SW8 5NQ

Tel: 020 7273 0000

Email: info@mca.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.mca.gov.uk

Medical Devices Agency

(from April 2003 will form part of new MHRA)

Hannibal House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6TQ

Tel: 020 7972 8000

Text phone (minicom): 020 7972 8356

Email: mail@medical-devices.gov.uk

Website: www.medical-devices.gov.uk

NHS Modernisation Agency

Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS

Fax: 020 7210 4904

Website: www.modern.nhs.uk

NHS Quality Improvement, Scotland

Delta House, 50 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2NP

Tel: 0141 225 6999

Website: www.nhshealthquality.org

Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)

Royal College of Physicians,

9 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JQ

Tel: 0131 225 7324

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