

GUIDANCE FOR THE NHS AND OTHER SECTORS ON INTERVENTIONS THAT REDUCE THE RATES OF PREMATURE DEATH IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS

Consultation on the Draft Summary of the Evidence

All registered stakeholders for NICE public health intervention guidance on reducing rates of premature death in disadvantaged areas are invited to comment on the draft summaries of the evidence to inform the development of the guidance.

The focus of the guidance is the role of proactive case finding, retention and access to services in tackling health inequalities by improving service use and compliance in groups in disadvantaged areas with a higher than average risk of premature death.

Proactive case finding, retention and access to services are activities which can be undertaken in relation to a wide range of public health interventions. While these activities are likely to differ across public health issues, in order to better understand what they might involve two topics have been chosen for detailed study. These are smoking cessation and provision of statins. Smoking cessation was chosen because smoking accounts for approximately half the difference in life expectancy between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups. Provision of statins was chosen because they are used to prevent or manage cardiovascular disease, a leading cause of premature death.

This evidence summary comprises:

- a mapping exercise to help identify and describe proactive case finding, retention and access to services in the areas of smoking cessation and provision of statins;
- executive summaries from two rapid reviews of the effectiveness of these approaches in the areas of smoking cessation and statins;
- a review of the cost effectiveness of these approaches.

The aim of this process is to enable stakeholders to consider the evidence gathered during this first phase and to give you the opportunity to comment, in particular on:

- Major gaps in the evidence gathered, including papers in published literature that we have not been able to identify;
- queries around interpretations both of single studies and the reviewed material as a whole;
- the applicability of the evidence and its usefulness for the development of guidance;
- issues relating to the cost-effectiveness analysis.

The evidence summary documents for consultation can be found under 'Consultation Documents.' Copies of the full reviews, including the lists of included and excluded references can be found under 'Background Documents'.

This consultation on the draft summary of the evidence runs for 4 weeks from Thursday 27th September until Thursday 25th October 2007. **All responses should be submitted electronically, using the Stakeholder Comments Form, by 5pm on**

Thursday 25th October to the following email address:
healthinequalities@nice.org.uk

During this consultation period, registered stakeholders are also invited to submit relevant additional evidence for consideration by the Public Health Interventions Advisory Committee. In order for NICE to be able to produce guidance in a timely fashion, materials should be:

- Relevant to the questions set out in the final scope document, which can be found here: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/page.aspx?o=425069>
- Currently not included in the evidence summary reports
- Provided as hard copy or as the electronic link to a freely accessible version of the complete document.

For more information on the public health intervention guidance on proactive case finding, retention and access to services in disadvantaged areas, please see here: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/page.aspx?o=350206>

Please note that materials must be supplied by 5pm on Thursday 25th October 2007 to our email address: healthinequalities@nice.org.uk Unfortunately, due to time constraints, we are unable to engage in further discussions about material included or excluded at this stage.

We are also interested in any evidence or information that you may have from evaluated interventions and programmes relevant to this guidance, including information relating to implementation and getting evidence into practice. If you are willing to share any such evidence or information with us, it can be submitted at: healthinequalities@nice.org.uk