NICE appraisal consultation document - Dexamethasone for macular oedema following retinal vein occlusion

Comments from NHS Wirral

In response to the comment 'NICE is minded not to recommend this therapy':

A joint application between primary and secondary care is about to be submitted to the Wirral Drug and Therapeutics Committee for the use of dexamethasone for the treatment of macular oedema following BRVO or CRVO.

The basis of this application is for its use if laser therapy is unsuitable and instead of unlicensed triamcinolone or bevacizumab. With only two treatments per year, this would be much more acceptable for patients and there would be significant savings in theatre costs.

On Wirral, we would prefer this treatment to be approved by NICE. The cost of using it is comparable with bevacizumab and much cheaper than ranibizumab, if this were licensed for the same indication.

The ophthalmologists at the Wirral University Teaching Hospitals believe Ozurdex to be a good option for treating these patients. The proposed service builds upon existing capacity, infrastructure and personnel support.

