

Liquid-based cytology for cervical screening

NOTE: This guidance replaces Technology Appraisal Guidance No. 5 issued in June 2000.

The Institute reviews each piece of guidance it issues.

The review and re-appraisal of the use of liquid based cytology for cervical screening has resulted in a change in the guidance. Specifically there has been:

- a recommendation of the use of liquid-based cytology as the primary means of processing samples in the cervical screening programme in England and Wales.

1 Guidance

- 1.1 It is recommended that liquid-based cytology (LBC) is used as the primary means of processing samples in the cervical screening programme in England and Wales.
- 1.2 There is currently insufficient evidence to recommend one LBC product over another. The NHS Cervical Screening Programme and Cervical Screening Wales may wish to consider evaluating further the different products as the method is introduced.

Technology Appraisal Guidance 69

This guidance is written in the following context:

This guidance represents the view of the Institute which was arrived at after careful consideration of the available evidence. Health professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. This guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of health professionals to make appropriate decisions in the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

Ordering information

Copies of this summary can be obtained from the NHS Response Line by telephoning 0870 1555 455 and quoting ref: N0297. For copies of the full guidance quote reference number N0296. Information for the public can be obtained by quoting reference number N0298 for the English version and N0299 for a version in English and Welsh.

Published by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence, October 2003 ISBN: 1-84257-369-1

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