

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE**

**SPECIAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**

**CENTRE FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION  
PROGRESS REPORT**

The Board is asked to note this progress report.

Dr Carole Longson  
Director of the Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

November 2007

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## **1 Highlights**

- We have completed our comprehensive review of the Guide to the Methods of Technology Appraisal and present an updated guide to the Board at this meeting for review and approval for public consultation.

## **2 Progress against business plan objectives (2007 – 2008)**

### **2.1 Technology Appraisals Guidance**

**Target for year:** Publish 18 multiple technology appraisal (MTAs) final appraisal determinations (FAD), and 14 single technology appraisal (STAs) final appraisal determinations.

#### **Progress to Year End Target**

The projected out-turn is the production of over 90% of the FADs planned for publication in 2007-8 (17 MTAs and 12 STAs).

The reasons for 3 technology appraisals planned for FAD publication in 2007-08 that we do not anticipate being published are given below:

- Lapatinib for advance breast cancer - timelines for European regulatory approval for lapatinib have been extended and it is anticipated that the Marketing Authorisation will not be received in time to allow the FAD to publish in 2007-08.
- Carmustine implants for recurrent glioma - due to non-submission by the manufacturer and the proposal to terminate this appraisal.
- Thrombophilia – This appraisal has been suspended to enable further consideration of the appropriateness of this topic for technology appraisal. Discussions are ongoing.

**Target for Q3:** Publish 4 MTA final appraisal determinations and 4 STA final appraisal determinations.

#### **Progress to Q3 target on MTA Appraisals**

As previously reported, two MTA final appraisal determinations for inhaled steroids in asthma (adults and children) planned for Q3 published ahead of target in Q2.

The MTA appraisal of thrombophilia has been suspended to allow for further discussions regarding the appropriateness of this topic for technology appraisal.

The appraisal of and the epoetin/darboepoetin MTA has been delayed due to additional analysis being requested by the appraisal committee.

The Final Appraisal Determination for the MTA for ankylosing spondylitis, originally scheduled to publish in Q1, has been released for appeal this quarter.

### **Progress to Q3 Target on STA Appraisals**

We are on target for publication of two STA final appraisal determinations; infliximab in psoriasis and abatacept in rheumatoid arthritis.

Two STAs are not publishing as planned:

- Lapatinib for advanced and metastatic breast cancer is still awaiting final regulatory approval.
- We have not received a submission from the manufacturer of Carmustine implants for recurrent glioma and, subject to Board approval, we propose to terminate the appraisal at this point.

Please refer to Appendix 1a for further details.

## **2.2 Interventional Procedure Determinations**

**Target:** Issue 60 Final Interventional Procedure Determinations (FIPDs) at a rate of 12 – 18 per quarter.

### **Progress to Year End Target**

The projected out-turn for 2007-8 is the production of 43 Final Interventional Procedure Determinations. Therefore, the business plan target will not be achieved. The reasons for not achieving the business plan target are given below:

- The number of notifications being taken on by the programme is lower than in previous years. Out of a total of 80 notifications, 28 were suitable for taking onto the programme.
- We have introduced enhancements to our methodology with the result that it is now taking more analyst time per procedure to produce guidance.
- The benefit of additional, temporary analyst capacity recruited in January 07 was not felt until Q2 2007, due to the time-lag between

the first time IPAC considers a procedure and the publication of guidance.

- Publication was lighter at the beginning of the year (production of 17 FIPDs in Q1/Q2 and is picking up substantially in Q3/Q4 (projected out-turn of 26 FIPDs in Q3/Q4).
- Two procedures considered IPAC have been referred to ReBIP. These were due for publication in Q2 2007-8 but guidance will not be produced until the 2008/09 business year.

### **Progress to Q3 Target**

Three procedures reached the FIPD stage by the end of October, and a further 13 are expected to be issued in the rest of Q3, making 16 in total in Q3. Three procedures were delayed from Q2 into Q3:

- Laparoscopic uterine nerve ablation (LUNA) for chronic pelvic pain and Intravesical microwave hyperthermia with intravesical chemotherapy for superficial bladder cancer – to ensure an even spread of publication of guidance between September and October
- Endovascular stent insertion for intracranial atherosclerotic disease –Guidance Executive requested that IPAC clarify its recommendations on the procedure.

Please refer to Appendix 2 for further details.

### **2.3 Guide to the Methods of Technology Appraisal**

**Target:** Review the Guide to the Methods of Technology Appraisal.

**Progress:** The draft update of the Guide is presented to the Board on target at this meeting for review and approval for public consultation.

### **2.4 Review Proposal Projects**

**Target for year:** Prepare documentation and consult on review proposals for 19 existing pieces of appraisals guidance.

**Target for Q3:** Prepare documentation and consult on review proposals for 2 existing pieces of appraisals guidance.

**Progress:** It is anticipated this target will be met by the end of the quarter.

### **2.5 Scoping**

**Target:** Conduct consultation on draft remits and draft scopes, including running scoping workshops for consultees and commentators, for all minded referrals. It is expected that approximately 35 topics will go through this 'block scoping' process within the 2007-8 business planning period.

**Progress:** The 16th wave minded referral was received in September 2007 and included the following topics:

- Colorectal cancer (metastatic) – cetuximab
- Head and neck cancer (metastatic and/or recurrent squamous cell carcinoma) – cetuximab
- Wound management – topical negative pressure
- Specific cancers – intensity modulated radiotherapy
- Hypertension – aliskiren
- Coronary artery disease – computed tomography (CT) angiography

Consultation on the draft scopes for each of the proposed topics was completed on target in October and the corresponding scoping workshops were held in early November. A report on the discussions at the workshops is being prepared for submission to the Department of Health to help inform Ministerial decisions on the final referral of the 16<sup>th</sup> wave.

## 2.6 Planning system

**Target:** Improve the efficiency of the planning and tracking of technology appraisals through the development and implementation of a new planning system.

**Progress:** The development of the technology appraisals planning system has been delayed because of unanticipated issues arising during implementation of the new Interventional Procedures planning system. The Information Technology (IT) department are currently concentrating their resources on resolving these issues before continuing with the development of the appraisals planning system. IT has recently employed a new software developer to build and maintain the proposed planning systems and the technical specification for the planning system is being updated. We anticipate receiving an update from IT by the end of November with revised timescales for the development of the appraisal planning system.

## 3 Other Matters

### 3.1 Equalities

Significant resource is being directed to identify equalities issues on ongoing appraisals. The Centre is also reviewing how the legislation affects the detailed operation of the Technology Appraisals and Interventional Procedures programmes. Plans are being developed to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to these issues during the review of the process guides, due to take place in 2008-9.

## **4 Centre Recruitment and Staff**

### **4.1 Technology Appraisals**

Many congratulations to Joanna Richardson who has been promoted to Technical Adviser for a 1-year contract.

New staff have also been recruited to the Technology Appraisals team, filling vacant positions:

- Helen Knight, Analyst
- Rebecca Trowan, Analyst
- Jeremy Powell, Administrator

However, due to various movements of staff within the Institute, we continue to operate with two key Technology Appraisal Project Manager positions filled by temporary staff. We plan to fill these positions as a matter of urgency given their key role in supporting the output of the Technology Appraisals Programme.

### **4.2 Interventional Procedures**

Dr Hannah Patrick, Consultant in Public Health Medicine at Bexley PCT has been appointed to the post of Consultant Clinical Adviser (IP Registers).

Dr Carole Longson  
Director, Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

November 2007

**Appendix 1a: Publication schedule for final appraisal determinations 2007 - 2008**

Guidance	Process	Technologies	Number of technologies covered	Progress
Q1 April – June 2007				
Lung cancer (non small cell)	STA	erlotinib	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q4 2006 – 2007.
Lung cancer (non small cell)	STA	pemetrexed	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q4 2006 – 2007.
Heart failure	MTA	biventricular pacing (cardiac resynchronization)	5	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q4 2006 – 2007.
Glioma (newly diagnosed)	MTA	carmustine implants and temozolomide	2	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Ankylosing spondylitis	MTA	adalimumab, etanercept & infliximab	3	The Committee requested additional work. Consequently the Final Appraisal Determination <b>did not publish to target</b> in Q1; the Final Appraisal Determination has been released for appeal in Q3.
Head and neck cancer (locally advanced recurrent metastatic)	STA	cetuximab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Stroke	STA	alteplase	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Multiple sclerosis	STA	natalizumab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published 3 days beyond target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.

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Psoriatic arthritis	STA	adalimumab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published 2 days beyond target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Multiple myeloma	STA	bortezomib	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published beyond target</b> in Q2. Timelines for this appraisal were extended to include a second consultation on the Committee's provisional decisions.
Q2 July – Sep 2007				
Smoking cessation	STA	varenicline	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Rheumatoid arthritis (sequential use of)	MTA	etanercept, infliximab & adalimumab	3	Updated guidance on initial use <b>published beyond target</b> in Q3. The appeal panel instructions for re-consideration of sequential use has been planned into the work programme.
Osteoporosis (primary prevention)	MTA	alendronate, etidronate, risedronate, raloxifene and strontium ranelate	5	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Osteoporosis (secondary prevention)	MTA	alendronate, etidronate, risedronate, raloxifene, strontium ranelate and teriparatide	6	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q1 2007 – 2008.
Hyper-cholesterolemia	MTA	ezetimibe	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.

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Rheumatoid arthritis	STA	rituximab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Asthma (uncontrolled)	STA	omalizumab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Haemorrhoid	MTA	stapled haemorrhoidectomy	2	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	MTA	pegaptanib and ranibizumab	2	Timelines for this appraisal are to be extended. <b>Anticipated to publish beyond target</b> in Q4 2007-8.
Mesothelioma	MTA	pemetrexed disodium	1	Final appraisal determination <b>published to target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Q3 Oct – Dec 2007				
Breast cancer (advanced and metastatic)	STA	lapatinib	1	Timelines for European regulatory approval for lapatinib have been updated. Anticipated to publish in Q1 2008 – 2009 beyond target
Psoriasis	STA	infliximab	1	Final appraisal determination <b>anticipated to publish to target</b> in Q3 2007 – 2008.
Rheumatoid arthritis	STA	abatacept	1	Final appraisal determination <b>anticipated to publish to target</b> in Q3 2007 – 2008.
Anaemia (cancer-treatment induced)	MTA	epoetin (alfa & beta) & darbepoetin alfa	3	Extra work commissioned <b>Anticipated to publish beyond target</b> in Q4 2007 – 2008

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Thrombophilia	MTA	Blood testing kits	20-30	Appraisal suspended following further consideration of whether this topic is suitable for technology appraisal. Discussion are ongoing. Target will not be met.
Asthma (in adults)	MTA	corticosteroids	tbc	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Asthma (in children)	MTA	corticosteroids	tbc	Final appraisal determination <b>published ahead of target</b> in Q2 2007 – 2008.
Glioma (recurrent)	STA	carmustine implants	1	Manufacturer has not submitted evidence to this STA. Subject to Board approval this appraisal will be terminated.
Q4 Jan – March 2008				
Ischaemic heart disease	MTA	coronary artery stents	12+	
Sleep apnoea hypopnea syndrome (obstructive)	MTA	continuous positive airway pressure	tbc	
Ulcerative colitis	STA	infliximab	1	
Psychosis (first onset)	MTA	Neuroimaging	tbc	
Follicular lymphoma (3 <sup>rd</sup> and subsequent line)	STA (review of existing guidance)	rituximab	1	

## Appendix 1b: Consultation schedule for Review Proposals

	Guidance	Progress
Q1	April – June 2007	
	Guidance no. 77 Insomnia - newer hypnotic drugs	Proposal consulted on in Q2, missing target, due to discussions with the Department of Health regarding the inclusion of more technologies.
	Guidance no. 78 Menstrual bleeding - fluid-filled thermal balloon and microwave endometrial ablation	Proposal consulted on in Q2, missing target, due to internal discussions with the Centre for Clinical Practice to update this review within the clinical guidelines programme.
	Guidance no. 107 Breast cancer (early) – trastuzumab	Proposal consulted on in Q2, missing target, due to internal discussions with the Centre for Clinical Practice to update this review within the clinical guidelines programme.
	Guidance no. 108 Breast cancer (early) – paclitaxel	Proposal consulted on in Q2, missing target, due to internal discussions with the Centre for Clinical Practice to update this review within the clinical guidelines programme.
	Guidance no. 109 Breast cancer (early) – docetaxel	Proposal consulted on in Q2, missing target, due to internal discussions with the Centre for Clinical Practice to update this review within the clinical guidelines programme.
Q2	July – September 2007	
	Guidance no. 47 Acute coronary syndromes - glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors	Target met
	Guidance no. 80 Acute coronary syndromes – clopidogrel	Target met
	Guidance no. 81 Atopic dermatitis (eczema) - topical steroids	Proposal consulted on in Q3, target missed by 2 days.
	Guidance no. 95 Arrhythmia - implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs)	Proposal expected to be consulted on in Q3, missing target, due to internal agreement about overlap with other guidance.
	Guidance no. 104 Psoriatic arthritis - etanercept and infliximab	Target met
	Guidance no. 82 Atopic dermatitis (eczema) –	Target met

	pimecrolimus and tacrolimus	
	Guidance no. 83 Hernia – laparoscopic surgery	Following timetable updates consultation anticipated starting in Q3 2007 – 2008.
	Guidance no. 85 Renal transplantation - immuno-suppressive regimens (adults)	Proposal consulted on in Q3, target missed by 4 days.
	Guidance no. 84 Sepsis (severe) – drotrecogin	Following timetable updates consultation anticipated starting in Q3 2007 – 2008.
	Guidance no. 102 Conduct disorder in children - parent-training/education programmes	Following timetable updates consultation anticipated starting in Q3 2007 – 2008.
Q3	October – December 2007	
	Guidance no. 106 Hepatitis C - peginterferon alfa and ribavirin	Anticipated target will be met.
	Guidance no. 23 Glioma (recurrent) – temozolomide	Anticipated target will be met.
Q4	January – March 2008	
	Guidance no. 94 Cardiovascular disease – statins	
	Guidance no. 91 Ovarian cancer (advanced) - paclitaxel, pegylated liposomal doxorubicin hydrochloride and topotecan (review)	

## Appendix 2

## Interventional Procedures Programme – Progress with production of FIPDs

Procedure name	Topic area	Quarter of publication (scheduled)	Quarter of publication (actual/due) – bold denotes scheduled date not met
Tissue-cultured limbal stem cell allograft transplantation for regrowth of corneal epithelium	Eye	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Ultrasound-guided foam sclerotherapy for varicose veins (guidance review)	Cardiovascular	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Therapeutic sialendoscopy	Mouth and dental	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Microwave ablation for the treatment of metastases in the liver	Cancer	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Lower limb deep vein valve reconstruction for chronic deep venous incompetence	Cardiovascular	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Endoscopic augmentation of the lower oesophageal sphincter using hydrogel implants for the treatment of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease	Digestive system	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Therapeutic percutaneous image guided aspiration of spinal cysts	Central nervous system	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Closure of anorectal fistula using a suturable bioprosthetic plug	Digestive system	Q1 2007/08	Q1 2007/08
Arthroscopic knee washout with or without debridement for the treatment of osteoarthritis	Musculoskeletal	Q1 2007/08	<b>Q2 2007/08</b>
Magnetic resonance (MR) image-guided transcatheter focused ultrasound ablation for uterine fibroids	Gynaecology, pregnancy and birth	Q1 2007/08	<b>Q2 2007/08</b>
Corneal implants for the correction of refractive error	Eye	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08

<b>Procedure name</b>	<b>Topic area</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (scheduled)</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (actual/due) – bold denotes scheduled date not met</b>
Insertion of extraurethral (non-circumferential) retropubic adjustable compression devices for stress urinary incontinence in men	Urogenital	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Laparoscopic deroofting of simple renal cysts	Urogenital	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Corneal implants for keratoconus	Eye	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Laparoscopic cervical cerclage for prevention of recurrent pregnancy loss due to cervical incompetence	Gynaecology, pregnancy and birth	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Laparoscopic repair of abdominal aortic aneurysm	Cardiovascular	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Serial transverse enteroplasty procedure (STEP) for bowel lengthening in parenteral nutrition dependent children	Digestive system	Q2 2007/08	Q2 2007/08
Endovascular stent insertion for intracranial atherosclerotic disease	Cardiovascular	Q2 2007/08	<b>Q3 2007/08</b>
Transcranial magnetic stimulation for severe depression	Mental health and behavioural conditions	Q1 2007/08	<b>Q3 2007/08</b>
Laparoscopic uterine nerve ablation (LUNA) for chronic pelvic pain	Gynaecology, pregnancy and birth	Q2 2007/08	<b>Q3 2007/08</b>
Intravesical microwave hyperthermia with intravesical chemotherapy for superficial bladder cancer	Urogenital	Q2 2007/08	<b>Q3 2007/08</b>
Grenz rays therapy for inflammatory skin conditions	Skin	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation for right ventricular outflow tract dysfunction	Cardiovascular	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Mini/micro screw implantation for orthodontic anchorage	Mouth and dental	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Laparoscopic techniques for hysterectomy	Gynaecology, pregnancy and birth	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08

<b>Procedure name</b>	<b>Topic area</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (scheduled)</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (actual/due) – bold denotes scheduled date not met</b>
Thoracoscopic aortopexy for severe primary tracheomalacia	Digestive system	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Soft palate implants for simple snoring	Mouth and dental	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Soft palate implants for obstructive sleep apnoea	Mouth and dental	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Circumferential epithelial radiofrequency ablation for Barrett's oesophagus	Digestive system	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Endoscopic saphenous vein harvest for coronary artery bypass graft	Cardiovascular	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Thoracoscopically assisted mitral valve surgery	Cardiovascular	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Thoracoscopic excision of mediastinal parathyroid tumours	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Hybrid procedure for interim management of hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS) in neonates	Cardiovascular	Q3 2007/08	Q3 2007/08
Laser-assisted non-occlusive cerebral vascular anastomosis without temporary arterial occlusion	Central nervous system	Q3 2007/08	<b>Q4 2007/08</b>
Ultrasound visualisation of the epidural space	Miscellaneous	Q3 2007/08	<b>Q4 2007/08</b>
Arterio-venous extracorporeal membrane carbon dioxide removal	Miscellaneous	Q3 2007/08	<b>Q4 2007/08</b>
Liposuction for chronic lymphoedema	Miscellaneous	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08
Single-incision sub-urethral short tape insertion for stress urinary incontinence in women	Urogenital	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08
Endobronchial ultrasound-guided transbronchial needle aspiration for mediastinal masses	Respiratory	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08
Laparoscopic mobilisation of the greater omentum for use in breast reconstruction	Gynaecology, pregnancy and birth	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08

<b>Procedure name</b>	<b>Topic area</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (scheduled)</b>	<b>Quarter of publication (actual/due) – bold denotes scheduled date not met</b>
Allogenic pancreatic islet cell transplantation for type 1 diabetes mellitus (partial review of IPG013)	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08
Intraoperative nerve monitoring during thyroid surgery	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08
Suburethral sling insertion for stress urinary incontinence in men	Urogenital	Q4 2007/08	Q4 2007/08