

## *National Institute for Clinical Excellence*

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **NICE LAUNCHES PROGRAMME OF WORK TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS GUIDANCE IN THE NHS**

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence is launching a programme of work to support the implementation of its guidance in the NHS. By the end of 2004, over 250 sets of recommendations will have been issued to the NHS in the form of clinical guidelines covering whole diseases or conditions, appraisals of individual technologies, and statements on the safety and efficacy of interventional procedures.

The Institute will be advertising for an Executive Director with responsibility for implementation this month, and re-launching the Institute's website ([www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)) on 24 May 2004 with a new section to support those responsible for implementing NICE guidance in the NHS. The implementation section of the website will provide:

- a resource for those who have responsibility for implementing the Institute's guidance, offering tools, tips, good practice examples and contacts to make the task of implementing the Institute's guidance easier;
- a source of information, directly and through links, about the impact NICE guidance is having on patient care;
- an area for exchanging ideas, discussing problems and solutions and feeding back to NICE, on the experience the local NHS has of using NICE guidance;
- a statement outlining the Institute's plans for supporting the NHS in the implementation of its guidance;

- information about the formal status of NICE guidance.

**Andrew Dillon, Chief Executive of NICE**, comments: “Hundreds of thousands of patients have benefited from NICE guidance since the Institute was established in 1999. Many local health communities in England and Wales have developed active service and financial planning arrangements so that resources can be allocated and individual clinicians supported to put NICE guidance into practice. We have been talking to people in the NHS and in our wider stakeholder community about the implementation of our guidance and we believe that by working effectively, with the NHS and with our national partners, we can help the NHS to do even better.”

## **Ends**

For more information call Louise Fish on 020 7067 5902.

## **Notes to Editors**

### About implementation of NICE guidance

1. During 2003-4 NICE has held a number of workshops and seminars with local NHS organisations, stakeholders and partners to discuss how NICE can further support the implementation of NICE guidance in the NHS. The Institute also held a national seminar on 21 April 2004 which brought together NHS partner organisations and key stakeholders representing patient groups, healthcare professionals and industry to share ideas on how NICE and its partners can better support the NHS in the implementation of guidance.
2. The Department of Health and Welsh Assembly Government have issued Directions relating to the implementation of NICE technology appraisal guidance which state that the NHS should make funding available to support the implementation of NICE Appraisal guidance within three months of its publication, unless the NHS is instructed to extend this period by the Department or Assembly.

### About NICE

3. NICE is part of the NHS. It is the independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on treatments and care for those 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. For further information about NICE you can visit [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk).
4. NICE produces guidance in three main 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 patients 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).