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PRESS RELEASE

NICE asked to develop guidance on the care of drug misuse, medicines for prostate cancer, and management of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) today welcomes the announcement of additional topics for its forward work programme. Topics including management and care of drug misuse, drugs for prostate cancer, and management of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) have been referred to NICE by the Secretary of State for Health and the Welsh Assembly Government in line with the national priorities they have established for the NHS. Once these topics have been referred, the development of the subsequent advice is entirely the responsibility of NICE.

The Department of Health and the Welsh Assembly Government have referred:

- Four clinical guidelines on: the treatment of drug misuse; the effectiveness of methylphenidate and other pharmacological and psychological interventions for the treatment of ADHD in children, young people and adults; the care and management of osteoarthritis; and the management of faecal incontinence.
- Sixteen technologies for appraisal, which include: methadone and buprenorphine as opiate substitutes; naltrexone as a treatment of relapse prevention; atrasentan and docetaxel for prostate cancer; pemetrexed disodium for mesothelioma (a cancer often caused by exposure to asbestos); biventricular pacing (cardiac resynchronisation) for heart failure; inhaled insulin for type 1 and type 2 diabetes;

and a range of drugs for the treatment of age-related macular degeneration, multiple sclerosis, asthma, head and neck cancer, colorectal cancer, high grade glioma, scarring after glaucoma filtration surgery, osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis.

Commenting on the referrals, **Andrew Dillon, NICE Chief Executive** said: “The topics referred to us today will enable NICE extend its advice to patients and clinicians in some important chronic and acute conditions. We particularly welcome the opportunity to support people with drug addictions. We will begin developing guidance as soon as possible, and we will publish details of the timetables for these topics on our web site shortly”.

Technology appraisals are recommendations on the use of new and existing medicines and other treatments, and clinical guidelines are recommendations on the appropriate treatment and care of patients with specific diseases and conditions. Full details of the process that is followed by the Department of Health and Welsh Assembly Government when selecting topics for NICE can be found on the Department of Health's website at: <http://www.dh.gov.uk>.

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. 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.
2. The full list of topics referred by the Department of Health is shown below:

Technology appraisals

- Atrasentan for hormone refractory prostate cancer
- Cetuximab for head and neck cancer
- Pemetrexed disodium in the treatment of mesothelioma
- Oxaliplatin, irinotecan and capecitabine as adjuvant therapy in colorectal cancer
- Docetaxel for hormone-refractory prostate cancer
- Carmustine implants (Gliadel Wafers) for newly diagnosed high grade glioma
- Biventricular pacing (cardiac resynchronisation) for heart failure

- Methadone and Bupenorphine as opiate substitutes
- Naltrexone as a treatment for relapse prevention
- Pegaptanib for age-related macular degeneration
- Natalizumab for multiple sclerosis
- Adalimumab for rheumatoid arthritis
- Lerdelimumab (CAT-152) for prevention of scarring after glaucoma filtration surgery
- Strontium ranelate for osteoporosis
- Inhaled insulin for the management of type 1 and type 2 diabetes
- Corticosteroids for asthma

Clinical guidelines

- Care and management of osteoarthritis
 - Drug treatment
 - Management of faecal incontinence
 - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children, young people and adults
3. Full details are available from the Department of Health press office on 020 7210 5010 or through their website at:
http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/PressReleases/PressReleasesNotices/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4084105&chk=TAXP6I.
 4. NICE guidance and recommendations are prepared by independent groups that include professionals working in the NHS and people who are familiar with the issues affecting patients and carers.