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PRESS RELEASE

NICE appoints Executive Directors to lead new organisation responsible for prevention and treatment of ill health

From April 2005 NICE will take on the functions of the Health Development Agency (HDA) to create a single excellence-in-practice organisation covering both prevention and treatment of ill health. Today the NICE Board announces the appointment of the Executive Directors who will lead the new organisation.

Initially, three Executive Directors have been appointed from amongst the existing NICE and HDA Executive Directors. Those appointed are:

- Andrew Dillon CBE, Chief Executive
- Professor Peter Littlejohns, Clinical and Public Health Director
- Andrea Sutcliffe, Planning and Resources Director.

Recruitment to further Executive Director posts will take place once the impact of the forthcoming White Paper on Public Health on the new organisation has been assessed.

Professor Sir Michael Rawlins, Chairman of NICE, said: "I am delighted that we have been able to appoint such an experienced team. Collectively they will be able

to ensure that the Institute continues to provide guidance to the clinical community, but also guidance to the wider health community”.

Dame Yve Buckland, Chairman of HDA, said: ““The first three executive appointments to the Board of the new NICE bring tremendous experience and a proven track record of delivery. They have been major contributors to the success of NICE since its establishment. I am also very pleased that Sir Michael and his Board have signalled strongly that they wish to make further executive appointments to support the delivery of the new public health White Paper and the much broader role that NICE will play in health after April 2005.”

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. Andrew Dillon CBE joined the NHS in 1975. A period of time at The National Management Training Scheme was followed by a junior management post in Bolton and then a move to London in 1981. After a short period at Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, he spent three years at The Royal London Hospital before becoming Unit General Manager at The Royal Free Hospital in 1986. This was followed, in 1991, by his appointment as Chief Executive of St George's Healthcare, which became an NHS Trust in 1993. Andrew joined NICE as Chief Executive in July 1999.
2. Professor Peter Littlejohns was formerly Professor of Public Health at St Georges Hospital Medical School and Director of the Health Care Evaluation Unit. His previous research unit was commissioned by the National Health Service Executive to appraise potential national guidelines. His research interests include developing new approaches to assessing the cost-effectiveness of clinical care and translating research findings into practice. He was coordinator of a 10 country research programme funded through BIOMED 11 investigating the basis of variation in international guideline recommendations. Peter joined NICE as Clinical Director in 1999.
3. Andrea Sutcliffe joined NICE in November 2000 from the London Borough of Camden where she was the Assistant Director, Performance Management and Resources for the Social Services Department. Prior to her move into local government, Andrea had over 13 years NHS experience in health authority, acute and community care settings. She has undertaken a variety of roles including finance, business planning, contracting and general management.
4. From April 2005, NICE will take on the functions of the Health Development Agency to create a single excellence-in-practice organisation covering both prevention and treatment of ill health. A centre for excellence in public health will become part of the NICE infrastructure, evaluating public health interventions and enabling their cost effectiveness to be weighed against the cost effectiveness of treatments in later years. The HDA will be abolished. Further information can be found in the Department of Health document *Reconfiguring the Department of Health's Arm's Length Bodies* at www.dh.gov.uk.
5. The National Institute for Clinical Excellence 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.

6. The Health Development Agency is the national authority on what works to improve people's health and to reduce health inequalities. It works in partnership across sectors to support informed decision making at all levels and the development of effective practice. For further information about the HDA you can visit www.hda.nhs.uk