

What are your next steps?

To find out more:

- visit our website at **www.nice.org.uk** and click on 'Getting involved'
- email **PIIP@nice.org.uk**
- phone 020 7067 5800 and ask for the Patient & Public Involvement Programme (PIIP) Administrator.

Sign up for the Patient and Public Involvement Programme's annual newsletter and summer supplement to keep up-to-date with NICE's patient and public involvement activities. Available in paper and electronic versions – email **PIIP@nice.org.uk** or phone 020 7067 5800.

Via our website – **www.nice.org.uk** – you can also sign up for:

- the NICE monthly e-newsletter to keep up-to-date with our work and the latest opportunities for getting involved
- NICE e-alerts to get regular information on topics of interest.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is the independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention and treatment of ill health. NICE produces guidance in three areas of health.

Public health – guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention of ill health for those working in the NHS, local authorities and the wider public and voluntary sectors.

Health technologies – guidance on the use of new and existing medicines, treatments and procedures within the NHS.

Clinical practice – guidance on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS.

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**National Institute for
Health and Clinical Excellence**

Involving patients and the public in NICE guidance

Ways to get involved and the support available

NICE's commitment

The views of patients and the public matter to NICE. We want to involve them, as well as doctors, nurses and other professionals, in our work.

By working with patients, voluntary organisations and the public, NICE aims to produce guidance that reflects their views, meets their health needs and addresses patient and public issues.

There are many ways patients, carers and members of the public can get involved in NICE's work.

Support available: NICE's PPIP

The Patient and Public Involvement Programme (PPIP) at NICE is dedicated to developing and supporting opportunities to involve patients, carers and the public in NICE's work.

In addition to advising NICE and its partner organisations, we also:

- identify organisations representing patient, carer or public interests that may have an interest in specific topics of NICE's work
- provide training, support and information to those organisations and individuals interested in contributing to NICE's work
- comment from a lay perspective on draft guidance issued by NICE.

How do you get involved...

...in shaping NICE policy?

From time to time, opportunities are advertised on our website and in the national press for membership of:

- NICE's Board, which decides our strategic direction and the work we will do
- The Partners' Council, which helps inform the Board's strategic decisions
- The Citizens' Council, which advises the Board on ethical issues and society's views.

For more information, please visit our website.

...as an individual?

Every committee and working group at NICE has at least two lay members. These positions are advertised on our website. Patient or lay experts are also invited to meetings to help committees understand more about the experiences of patients and members of the public.

Individual members of the public can comment on draft guidance through our website.

...as a national organisation?

National patient or voluntary organisations can register as stakeholders for individual topics. This means they can help set the questions we are looking at, and comment on research evidence and draft recommendations. They may also be invited to nominate experts to attend meetings or join working groups.

...in helping to put our guidance into practice?

The NHS is expected to follow recommendations in NICE guidance. NICE helps the NHS to do this. To find out what we are doing and how you can get involved, see the 'Using guidance' section of our website.

If you are active in a patient or carer organisation, or in a voluntary or community group, you could use your networks and influence to publicise, encourage and support the use of NICE guidance.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

...in suggesting topics?

Anyone can now suggest topics they would like NICE to look at through the link on the homepage of our website.

Patient versions of our documents

NICE produces plain English versions of its clinical guidance in its 'Understanding NICE guidance'. These outline NICE's recommendations in a way that is accessible and understandable to patients, carers and members of the public.

Many hospitals and clinics hold copies of these. They can also be downloaded from the NICE website, or you can order free paper copies by ringing the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455 and quoting the appropriate reference number.