

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 24th February 2015

**Place:** NCGC office, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ

**Minutes:** Confirmed

**Guideline Development Group Meeting 12 – Low back pain and sciatica**

**Present: GDG members**

Stephen Ward (SW) – Chair - Consultant in Pain Medicine, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS trust  
Babak Arvin (BA) - Consultant Neurosurgeon, Queens Hospital  
Ian Bernstein (IB) - General Practitioner, Gordon House Surgery, London  
Gary MacFarlane (GM) - Chair (clinical) in Epidemiology, University of Aberdeen  
Mark Mason (MM) - Patient member  
Neil O’Connell (NOC) – Lecturer, School of Health Sciences & Social Care Brunel University  
Philip Sell (PS) - Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust  
Steven Vogel (SV) – Vice Principal (Research), British School of Osteopathy  
David Walsh (DW) - Honorary consultant rheumatologist, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Chris Wells (CW) - Consultant in Pain Medicine

**NCGC**

Serena Carville (SC) – Associate Director  
Sophia Kemmis-Betty (SKB) – Senior Health Economist  
Qudsia Malik (QM) – Research Fellow  
Ben Pordes (BP) – Project Manager

**Apologies:**

Suzanne Blowey (SB) - Consultant Nurse Chronic Pain, Mount Gould Hospital, Plymouth  
Patrick Hill (PH) - Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust  
Bethany King (BK) – Document Editor/Process Assistant, NCGC  
Kate Lovibond (KL) – Senior Health Economist, NCGC  
Diana Robinson (DR) - Patient/Carer member  
Simon Somerville (SS) - General Practitioner, Park Medical Centre, Leek, Staffordshire

**Observers:**

Sana Khan (SK) – Research Fellow, NCGC

**In attendance:**

<b>NICE Staff:</b>	Ben Doak (BD)	Guidelines Commissioning Manager, NICE
--------------------	---------------	--

**Notes**

**1. Introduction, apologies and minutes**

SW welcomed the group to the twelfth meeting of this GDG. Apologies were received from SB, PH, BK, KL, DR and SS. The minutes from GDG10 and GDG11 were signed off.

**2. Declaration of interests**

No new declarations of interest were received this GDG meeting.

**3. Evidence review: Radiofrequency ablation**

ROM presented the clinical evidence review for radiofrequency ablation. SKB presented the health economic evidence. The GDG discussed the evidence and drafted recommendations.

**4. Protocol: Referral for surgery**

QM led the GDG through the protocol and the GDG discussed changes.

**5. Protocol: Timing of referral for surgery**

QM led the GDG through the protocol and the GDG discussed changes.

**6. Summary of the reviews**

ROM led the GDG reviewed summaries of the evidence for manual therapies, orthotics, postural therapy, psychological therapy, self-management and pharmacological therapy, and the GDG reviewed the provisionally drafted recommendations.

**7. Any other business**

There was no other business.

**Date, time and venue of the next meeting**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2015, 10:00–16:00, Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ