Questions from the public: July 2023 Board meeting

# Does NICE envisage any specific utilisation of AI for companies in the development of their submissions?

An internal taskforce is currently exploring the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) for NICE’s work. This includes the implications for NICE’s internal operations; NICE’s role in providing advice on the use of AI in the health and care system; and the impact on evidence generation.

# On slide 8 (Monitoring implementation of NICE’s new methods), it highlights several medicines which have applied the severity modifier, used real world evidence and had additional flexibilities applied. Please can NICE provide the TA names so that stakeholders can review the committee papers and guidance to see how the new manual is working in practice?

A report will be provided to the Board in December 2023 setting out how the updated methods have been applied.

# Where has the 15% improvement target [for technology appraisals] come from? Will this change over time?

The 15% reduction in the days between GB marketing authorisation and final technology appraisal guidance publication is based on repeating the level of reduction seen last year (17%).

# Regarding selection for NICE guidance/recommendations, are devices still being considered individually and, if so, will this process change?

In future the medical technologies evaluation programme will provide guidance on multiple technologies, in line with the other health technology guidance outputs. Given the volume of available medical technologies, it is not feasible to review individual technologies.

# I think it would be good to have a measurable impact that Sam and NICE could have to demonstrate the impact, for the people, NICE and the Department of Health and Social Care.

We recognise the scope to improve the intelligence that is available on the impact of NICE guidance on population health. As a starting point, we are looking at the NICE guidance available in selected national health and care priority areas, how it can be measured and the level in variation in uptake and use. Once collated, we will look at how this can be reported and shared to give actionable insights to the health and care system and national bodies who deliver and improve services for the people.

# For complex new medicines/technology like gene therapies, are these taking longer to appraise than the average 317 days?

Timeliness data is held for the following categories: new active substances; significant licence extensions; and orphan conditions. The mean days between GB marketing authorisation and final guidance publication for orphan conditions is longer than for the other categories. There are range of factors that can extend the time taken for an appraisal, including if NICE is not notified of the topic sufficiently early, additional submissions are made, or a cost effective price is not available in time for the first committee discussion.

# At what stage of appraisal topics will be defined as divergent or optimal?

As far as possible, NICE will seek to schedule a topic on the “optimal” timeframe (providing for example, NICE has received notification sufficiently early). In the course of the appraisal, circumstances may change leading to a topic being classed as “divergent” – for example if additional submissions are made, or it is subject of appeal.

# My contextual narrative has the ability to help NICE guidelines bridge the gap between service provider and user. How can I become an integral part of your public engagement? NICE guidelines are not always used correctly. At times creating a hefty financial and health expense, which in my lived experience was wholly unavoidable. Learning lessons leads to progression, evolvement and improvement. My sacred contextual narrative, can do this. How can I do this?

The public involvement pages on the NICE website provide further information on opportunities for sharing lived experience, including through membership of the committees that develop NICE guidance: <https://www.nice.org.uk/about/nice-communities/nice-and-the-public/public-involvement>.