

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

# Scope for guideline update (starting April 2026)

## Prostate cancer: diagnosis and management

NICE is updating its guideline on [prostate cancer: diagnosis and management](#) (NG131).

The update will be developed using the methods and processes in [developing NICE guidelines: the manual](#).

### Who the guideline update covers

The update will cover the same groups as the current guideline. These are:

- people referred from primary care for investigation of possible prostate cancer, in line with [NICE's guideline on suspected cancer: recognition and referral](#) (NG12, 2026)
- people with a confirmed histological diagnosis of primary adenocarcinoma of the prostate or, if biopsy is inappropriate, an agreed clinical diagnosis (based on, for example, digital rectal examination, high prostate-specific antigen [PSA] levels or known metastases).

### Equality considerations

A new [equality and health inequalities assessment](#) has been completed.

### Settings

This update will cover all health, mental health and social care settings in which NHS care or social care is received or commissioned.

## **Activities, services or aspects of care covered by the guideline update**

We will consider making recommendations or updating existing recommendations on:

- MRI and biopsy
- risk-stratified protocol for active surveillance
- high-intensity focused ultrasound
- systemic anticancer therapy for non-metastatic prostate cancer
  - androgen deprivation therapy (ADT)
  - docetaxel
  - abiraterone
- management options after radical treatment for people with non-metastatic prostate cancer and high-risk features for recurrence.

Recommendations that are being retained from the current guideline may be revised to update language, reflect current policy or practice, and to ensure consistency with new content.

## **What this guideline update will not cover**

This guideline update will not cover:

- referral from primary care with suspected prostate cancer – this is covered by NICE’s guideline on suspected cancer: recognition and referral (NG12, 2026)
- screening for prostate cancer – this is covered by the UK National Screening Committee.

## **Draft review questions**

We have developed the following draft review questions. These may change during guideline development, but the areas covered will remain as listed in the final scope.

The areas covered and draft questions will be used to develop more detailed review protocols.

### **MRI and biopsy**

1. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of biparametric MRI vs multiparametric MRI for diagnosing prostate cancer?
2. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of local anaesthetic transperineal prostate (LTP) biopsy vs transrectal ultrasound-guided (TRUS) biopsy for diagnosing clinically significant prostate cancer?

### **Risk-stratified protocol for active surveillance**

3. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of risk-stratified active surveillance protocols (which may include digital rectal examination) versus standard care for people with localised prostate cancer?

### **High-intensity focused ultrasound**

4. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of high-intensity focused ultrasound for people with localised prostate cancer?

## **Systemic anticancer therapy for non-metastatic prostate cancer**

5. Which people with non-metastatic prostate cancer benefit from a combination of ADT and external beam radiotherapy?
6. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of docetaxel in combination with ADT in people with non-metastatic prostate cancer?
7. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of abiraterone in combination with prednisolone in people with non-metastatic prostate cancer?

## **Management options after radical treatment for people with non-metastatic prostate cancer and high-risk features for recurrence**

8. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of immediate post-operative radiotherapy versus delayed post-operative radiotherapy in people with non-metastatic prostate cancer with high-risk features for recurrence?
9. What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of adjuvant ADT and radiotherapy versus radiotherapy in people with non-metastatic prostate cancer and high-risk features for recurrence?

## **Adapting recommendations from NHS England**

We will consider adapting recommendations from [NHS England's clinical commissioning policy on abiraterone acetate and prednisolone for high-risk, hormone sensitive, non-metastatic prostate cancer \(adults\)](#). As part of this, we will assess the systematic reviews used to inform the policy.

We will also consider:

- the estimated costs or savings associated with the recommendations (resource impact)
- availability and implementation within the NHS
- health economics

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- health inequalities
- whether the recommendations are within the scope of NICE's prostate cancer guideline.

## **Economic aspects**

We will take economic aspects into account when making recommendations. For each review question (or key areas in the scope), we review the economic evidence and, where appropriate, carry out economic modelling and analyses, to assess the value for money (cost effectiveness) of interventions. This is done using an NHS and personal social services perspective.

## **NICE guidance and quality standards that may be affected by this update**

- High-intensity focused ultrasound for prostate cancer (2005). NICE interventional procedures guidance 118
- Focal therapy using high-intensity focused ultrasound for localised prostate cancer (2023). NICE interventional procedures guidance 756
- Prostate cancer (2021). NICE quality standard 91

## **Incorporating NICE technology appraisals**

NICE technology appraisal guidance will be incorporated into the guideline where relevant. For further details, see our [web page on bringing our guidance together by topic](#).

NICE's current, or in development, technology appraisals are:

- [Talazoparib with enzalutamide for untreated hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2026). NICE technology appraisal guidance 1130
- [Abiraterone \(originator and generics\) for treating newly diagnosed high-risk hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2025). NICE technology appraisal guidance 1110

- [Darolutamide with androgen deprivation therapy for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2025). NICE technology appraisal guidance 1109
  - [Relugolix for treating hormone-sensitive prostate cancer](#) (2024). NICE technology appraisal guidance 995
  - [Olaparib with abiraterone for untreated hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2024). NICE technology appraisal guidance 951
  - [Darolutamide with androgen deprivation therapy and docetaxel for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2023). NICE technology appraisal guidance 903
  - [Olaparib for previously treated BRCA mutation-positive hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2023). NICE technology appraisal guidance 887
  - [Apalutamide with androgen deprivation therapy for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2021). NICE technology appraisal guidance 741
  - [Apalutamide with androgen deprivation therapy for treating high-risk hormone-relapsed non-metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2021). NICE technology appraisal guidance 740
  - [Enzalutamide for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2021). NICE technology appraisal guidance 712
  - [Larotrectinib for treating NTRK fusion-positive solid tumours](#) (2020). NICE technology appraisal guidance 630
  - [Enzalutamide for hormone-relapsed non-metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2019). NICE technology appraisal guidance 580
  - [Padeliporfin for untreated localised prostate cancer](#) (2018). NICE technology appraisal guidance 546
  - [Radium-223 dichloride for treating hormone-relapsed prostate cancer with bone metastases](#) (2016). NICE technology appraisal guidance 412
  - [Degarelix for treating advanced hormone-dependent prostate cancer](#) (2016). NICE technology appraisal guidance 404
  - [Cabazitaxel for hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer treated with docetaxel](#) (2016). NICE technology appraisal guidance 391
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- [Abiraterone for treating metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer before chemotherapy is indicated](#) (2016). NICE technology appraisal guidance 387
- [Enzalutamide for treating metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer before chemotherapy is indicated](#) (2016). NICE technology appraisal guidance 377
- [Enzalutamide for metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer previously treated with a docetaxel-containing regimen](#) (2014). NICE technology appraisal guidance 316
- [Denosumab for the prevention of skeletal-related events in adults with bone metastases from solid tumours](#) (2012). NICE technology appraisal guidance 265
- [Abiraterone for castration-resistant metastatic prostate cancer previously treated with a docetaxel-containing regimen](#) (2012). NICE technology appraisal guidance 259
- [Docetaxel for the treatment of hormone-refractory metastatic prostate cancer](#) (2006). NICE technology appraisal guidance 101.

## Further information

The guideline update is expected to be published in **month year**.

To follow the progress of the update, see the [guideline in development page](#) ([link to page](#)).

Our website has information about [how NICE guidelines are developed](#).

NICE guidelines cover health and care in England. Decisions on how they apply in other UK countries are made by ministers in the [Welsh Government](#), [Scottish Government](#) and [Northern Ireland Executive](#).

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