

Date and Time: *Wednesday 21st September 2011 (10:00–16:00h)*

Minutes: Confirmed

Varicose Veins Guideline Development Group Meeting 1

Place: *Boardroom, National Clinical Guideline Centre, 180 Great Portland Street,
London W1W 5QZ*

Present: Prof. Alun Davies (Chair) (All present for notes 1–11)
Mr Nick Hickey
Mr Keith Poskitt
Dr Mark Vaughan
David Evans
Hazel Trender
Dr Mustapha Azzam
Joyce Calam
Dr Jocelyn Brookes

In attendance:

NICE Staff: Caroline Keir	Guidelines Commissioning Manager	(Present for notes 1–11)
Sarah Chalmers	Patient and Public Involvement Programme	(Present for notes 1–4)
NCGC Staff: Dr Kate Kelley Dr Quyen Chu	Associate Director Senior Project Manager/Research Fellow	(All present for notes 1– 11)
Dr Mark Perry Ebenezer Tetteh Richard Whittome	Research Fellow Senior Health economist Information Scientist	

Observers:

NCGC Staff: Amy Kelsey	Project Manager	(Present for notes 1–4)
Lola Adedokun	Health Economist	(Present for notes 1–4, 6–7)

Notes

- The Chair welcomed the group to the first Varicose Veins Guideline Development Group Meeting (GDG1) and asked attendees to introduce themselves. Apologies were received from *Prof. Andrew Bradbury (GDG) and Jennifer Field (NICE)*. The Chair requested updates to the existing declarations of interests from GDG members. All declared that they knew of no personal specific, personal non-specific, non-personal specific or non-personal non-specific interest in the development of this guideline.
- The Chair opened up the meeting with his presentation (entitled, 'The Varicose Veins

Notes

Guideline Development Group') providing an introduction to the role of GDG members and the meeting objectives.

3. A series of other presentations (as listed below) were then given to the GDG, providing an induction to working with the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), the role of the National Clinical Guideline Centre (NCGC)'s core team, and patient/carer representatives. The GDG was also introduced to the scope of the guideline, and how health economics, information science and research methods will be used throughout the development stages.

- a) **Presentation 2:** Working with NICE – Caroline Keir
- b) **Presentation 3:** The NCGC and the guideline development process – Kate Kelley
- c) **Presentation 4:** Patient and carer involvement – Sarah Chalmers
- d) **Presentation 5:** Varicose veins baseline assessment – Caroline Keir
- e) **Presentation 6:** Finding the evidence: the role of the Information Scientist – Richard Whittome
- f) **Presentation 7:** Reviewing the evidence – Mark Perry
- g) **Presentation 8:** Clinical questions: SurveyMonkey results – Quyen Chu and Chair
- h) **Presentation 9:** Protocol review – Quyen Chu and Chair
- i) **Presentation 10:** Health economic evidence in guideline development – Ebenezer Tetteh

4. **SurveyMonkey questionnaire results**

The GDG discussed and agreed changes to the list of draft clinical questions. These questions will be revised and emailed to GDGs ASAP after the meeting for final review, comments and feedback. A revised list will be presented at the next GDG meeting.

5. **Review Protocols**

Review protocols for the following four questions were completed by the GDG:

- Q6: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of compression therapy compared with no treatment / lifestyle advice in people with leg varicose veins?
- Q10: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of stripping surgery compared with sclerotherapy in people with truncal leg varicose veins?
- Q11: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of stripping surgery compared with endothermal ablation in people with truncal leg varicose veins?
- Q13: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of sclerotherapy compared with endothermal ablation in people with truncal leg varicose veins?

These protocols will be revised and emailed to GDGs ASAP after the meeting for final review, comments and feedback, specifically on the outcomes section. Updated protocols will be presented at the next GDG meeting.

6. Possible areas for health economic prioritisation were discussed. It was agreed, that at the next GDG meeting, the health economic questions will be presented for consensus agreement by the Group.
7. The Group were given details about the available dates for the NICE-run health economic workshops and who to contact.
8. The meeting closed at 3.45pm.

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

Wednesday 2nd November 2011 (10:00–16:00h); Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London W1W 5QZ