Date and Time:  11th December 2012, 9:30 – 16:00

Minutes:  Confirmed

Guideline Development Group Meeting 6
Place:  Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ

GDG Present:  Fiona Lecky (Chair) (FL)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Mukul Agarwal (MA)  (Present for notes 1 – 4)
Robin Clarke (RC)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Barbara Green (BG)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Kieran Hogarth (KH)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Peter Hutchinson (PH)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
David Menon (DM)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Lisa Turan (LT)  (Present for notes 2 – 7)
Paul Wallman (PW)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)

NCGC Present:  Sarah Hodgkinson (SH)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Sue Latchem (SL)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Lilian Li (LL)  (Present for notes 5 – 7)
Vicki Pollit (VP)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)
Carlos Sharpin (CS)  (Present for notes 1 – 7)

In attendance:

NICE Staff:  None

Observers:  None

Agenda item

1. Welcome introductions and apologies
FL welcomed the group to the sixth meeting of this GDG. The GDG accepted the NICE minutes and working notes as an accurate record of the previous meeting and no changes were made.

FL asked each member to state any changes to their declarations of interest. The GDG and NCGC technical team declared no changes. It was noted that FL had previously declared a personal specific non-pecuniary interest in relation to the agenda item related to selection of patients for specialist neuroscience care. It was agreed that FL would step down from chairing this item and answer GDG questions only.

The GDG acknowledged apologies from Gaby Lomas, Mark Lyttle and Ben Doak.

2. Review of recommendations and linking evidence sections: anticoagulants
CS gave an update of the review and discussed the draft recommendations. The GDG discussed the applicability of the evidence presented and whether studies met our inclusion criteria. The group identified gaps in the evidence and decided to make recommendations for research.
Agenda item

3. Review of recommendations and linking evidence sections: selection of patients for head CT and urgency of imaging
SH discussed the recommendations on selection of patients for head CT and urgency of imaging. SH asked the GDG to review the use of timing of assessment, timing of requesting imaging and timing of performing imaging recommendations for consistency and to reflect the evidence presented.

4. Update and queries on pre-hospital assessment – selection of patients for specialist neuroscience care
BG chaired this session as FL has DOIs in this area. CS summarised the studies identified for direct transport question. The GDG agreed on which studies should be excluded. The GDG agreed that the paramedic who has been recruited as a co-optee will be invited to the next GDG in January.

5. Clinical prediction rules for cervical spine imaging – clinical effectiveness
SH detailed the review strategy for the review questions relating to further cervical spine imaging (patients who have received initial negative imaging). The GDG discussed the applicability of the evidence presented and whether it answers our review question. The GDG discussed predictors of cervical spine injury requiring further imaging, and how they base their decision making. The GDG will consider the output of the economic model prior to making recommendations in this area.

6. Update on clinical prediction rules for cervical spine imaging – cost effectiveness/update on health economic model
LL outlined the original decision model for cervical spine injury and detailed the review questions the model will cover. LL then talked through the draft decision model and asked the GDG questions concerning each part of the model, including strategies compared, management of patients with C-spine injuries and main assumptions so far.

7. Summary of next steps and any other business
SH urged the GDG to use Claromentis both for reading through documents prior to attending meetings and also for checking out documents and commenting/adding introduction and LETRs.

Date, time and venue of the next meeting

Tuesday 29th January 2013, 9.30 – 16.00 Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ.