

## 8-year surveillance 2016 – Atopic eczema in under 12s (2007) NICE guideline CG57

### Appendix A: decision matrix

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b><u>Diagnosis</u></b>			
<b>57 – 01</b> What criteria should be used to diagnose atopic eczema in children and how do they vary between ethnic groups? ( <a href="#">1.1.1.1-1.1.1.2</a> )			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.  <b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b><u>Assessment of severity, psychological and psychosocial wellbeing and quality of life</u></b>			
<b>57 – 02</b> What measures should be used to classify the severity of atopic eczema in children in the setting of clinical management? ( <a href="#">1.2.1.1</a> , <a href="#">1.2.1.3</a> , <a href="#">1.2.1.6</a> )			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.  <b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	Topic expert feedback noted an initiative for standardising outcomes in eczema which found systematic reviews indicating the Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI) and the objective Scoring Atopic Dermatitis (SCORAD) index as extensively validated and that EASI is the	New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.  New evidence was identified reporting that EASI and SCORAD are extensively validated and EASI was recommended to use in clinical trials. The current guideline looked at the available evidence for EASI

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		<p>preferred core instrument to measure clinical signs in AE trials <sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>A topic expert referred to the Choice of Moisturiser in Eczema Treatment (COMET) feasibility trial of emollients (moisturisers) for the treatment of children with eczema. One of the publications from COMET<sup>2</sup> reported that the Patient-Oriented Eczema Measure (POEM) was responsive to changes in eczema severity in young children with eczema. The minimal clinically importance difference of the POEM was around 3. POEM scores ranged from 0 (clear) to 28 (very severe eczema).</p>	<p>and SCORAD but both tools were ruled out because the Guideline Committee considered POEM to be the best tool as it was short, easy for parents or caregivers to complete and easily accessible via the internet. There was also new evidence about the use of POEM indicating it is responsive to changes in eczema severity. Therefore, the new evidence is unlikely to impact in the guideline recommendations.</p>
<p><b>57 – 03    How can psychological and psychosocial effects in children with atopic eczema and their families/carers be identified in everyday clinical settings? (<a href="#">1.2.1.1</a>, <a href="#">1.2.1.4-1.2.1.6</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>None identified relevant to this question.</p>	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.</p>

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<b>57 – 04 How should the impact of atopic eczema on families'/carers' quality of life be assessed, and how effective is it to use quality of life and other health-related scales in routine clinical management? (<a href="#">1.2.1.4</a>, <a href="#">1.2.1.6</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b>            A study looked at Italian versions of the Infants' Dermatitis Quality of Life Index (IDQoL) and Dermatitis Family Impact (DFI) finding both had satisfactory psychometric properties and can be used to evaluate quality of life of infants with atopic dermatitis and their families <sup>3</sup>.</p> <p>A study found that the Childhood Atopic Dermatitis Impact Scale (CADIS) measure had adequate test-retest reliability, concurrent validity, and discriminative validity. A responsiveness evaluation demonstrated that the CADIS also accurately measures change in patients whose disease improves <sup>4</sup>.</p> <p>New evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b>            A systematic review of the quality of life literature in children with atopic dermatitis was identified <sup>5</sup>. Most studies utilised an atopic dermatitis specific tool with the</p>	<p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>None identified relevant to this question.</p>	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.</p> <p>At the 4-year surveillance review the evidence showed that the CADIS measure had adequate reliability, validity and responsiveness but the current guideline recommendation suggests other tools to measure quality of life which are validated, shorter, and less complicated to use in routine clinical practice (Children's Dermatology Life Quality Index (CDLQI), IDQoL and DFI). There was also evidence about satisfactory psychometric properties of the IDQoL and DFI which is in line with the current guideline recommendation. At the 6-year surveillance review the evidence showed that inverse correlation between QoL and severity as well as correlation between various instruments which is in line with the current guideline recommendation. No new evidence was identified in the 8 year surveillance review to change these</p>

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<p>majority of studies indicating an inverse correlation between quality of life (QOL) and severity as well as correlation between various instruments. The review concluded that most atopic dermatitis-specific tools do not provide a standard, quantitative measurement in relation to perfect health as would do preference based studies required for cost-utility analyses. It was concluded at the 6 year surveillance review that this new evidence was unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p>			<p>conclusions.</p>
<p><b>57 – 05 How effective are behavioural therapy techniques for children with atopic eczema and what other effective psychological interventions are available? (1.7.1.4)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b>4-year review (2011)</b> One meta-analysis revealed that psychological interventions had a significant ameliorating effect on eczema severity, itching intensity and scratching in atopic dermatitis patients, but definite conclusions about their effectiveness seem premature <sup>6</sup>.  This new evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline</p>	<p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>None identified relevant to this question.</p>	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.  At the 4-year surveillance review the evidence showed that psychological interventions had a significant ameliorating effect on eczema severity, itching intensity and scratching in atopic dermatitis patients. This evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations because the guideline</p>

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<p>recommendations.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>			<p>recommends referring for psychological advice when the impact of the atopic eczema on quality of life and psychosocial wellbeing has not improved.</p> <p>No new evidence was identified in the 8 year surveillance review to change this conclusion.</p>
<p><b>Epidemiology</b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 06</b> What are the epidemiological characteristics of atopic eczema in children (including prevalence, age of onset and resolution, frequency, location and extent of flare-ups, associations with asthma, hay fever and food allergies, and variations in different ethnic groups)? (<a href="#">1.1.1.2</a>, <a href="#">1.3.1.1-1.3.1.2</a>)</p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>One meta-analysis of epidemiological data reported that the prevalence of having asthma, allergic rhinitis and eczema is higher than could be expected by chance and supports a close relationship of these disorders in children <sup>7</sup>.</p> <p>One RCT reported that infants with eczema under 6 months of age are at high risk of allergic reactions with their first introduction of egg, including severe symptoms of Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome (FPIES) and</p>	<p>Topic experts mentioned four recent studies about food sensitisation and food allergy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A meta-analysis demonstrated that early life food sensitisation is related to an increased risk of eczema <sup>9</sup>.</li> <li>• A cohort study reported that eczema in the first 2 years of life was the strongest risk factor for egg, peanut, tree nut and fish allergy <sup>10</sup>.</li> <li>• A population-based cohort study reported that infants with eczema were six times more likely to have egg</li> </ul>	<p>New evidence is consistent with guideline recommendations.</p> <p>New evidence was identified about the association between eczema and asthma / allergic rhinitis / food allergy which is in line with the current guideline recommendation which states that children with atopic eczema can often develop asthma and / or allergic rhinitis and that sometimes food allergy is associated with atopic eczema.</p>

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	anaphylaxis <sup>8</sup> .	<p>allergy and 11 times more likely to have peanut allergy by 12 months than infants without eczema <sup>11</sup>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An RCT on early peanut introduction in infants with eczema leading to 86% reduction in peanut allergy at 5 years <sup>12</sup>.</li> <li>• One topic expert referred to a review of epidemiologic studies and meta-analysis reporting that indoor dampness or mould is associated consistently with current and ever diagnosis of eczema but it is unclear from the abstract if studies in children were included in the review <sup>13</sup>.</li> <li>• One topic expert referred to an observational study concluding that atopic dermatitis is the main skin-related risk factor for food sensitisation in young infants <sup>14</sup>.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Identification and management of trigger factors</u></b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 07 What are the potential triggering factors for atopic eczema in children (including environmental irritants and allergens, dietary and psychological factors)? (1.4.1.1)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			

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<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<p><b>57 – 08 How should triggering factors for atopic eczema in children be identified and managed? (<a href="#">1.4.1.1-1.4.1.11</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>A systematic review of RCTs assessed the effects of all house dust mite reduction and avoidance measures for the treatment of eczema including participants of any age <sup>15</sup>. Two of the seven trials included only children, four included children and adults, and one included only adults. Overall, the included studies had a high risk of bias. Most studies reported no differences between the interventions. The abstract does not include specific results in children.</p>	<p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review found new evidence suggesting no clinically useful benefit for enzyme washing power avoidance <sup>16</sup>.</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance review about house dust mite reduction and avoidance measures for the treatment of eczema reporting no difference between interventions and no clinically useful benefit for enzyme washing power avoidance.</p> <p>The Guideline Committee concluded during guideline development that house dust mite elimination strategies may not be practical in many cases and no new evidence was identified through surveillance to counter this view.</p>
<p><b>57 – 09 What clinical tests should be used to identify relevant allergens and which children with atopic eczema would benefit from their use? (<a href="#">1.4.1.2-1.4.1.6</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b></p>			

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This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> This area was highlighted by the Guideline Committee as an area with new evidence. However the guideline cross refers to CG116 which would include this population.</p> <p>New evidence/feedback is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.</p> <p>This area was highlighted by the Guideline Committee as an area with new evidence during the 6 year surveillance review. However the guideline cross refers to CG116: <a href="#">Food allergy in under 19s: assessment and diagnosis</a> (February 2011) which would include this population.</p>
<b>57 – 10 How should food allergies in children with atopic eczema be identified and managed? (<a href="#">1.4.1.2</a>, <a href="#">1.4.1.5-1.4.1.10</a>, <a href="#">1.7.1.5</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b>			
This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> Results from 2 small poorly reported studies indicated that there may be some benefit in using an egg-free diet in infants with suspected egg allergy who have positive specific IgE to eggs. However, there was little evidence to support the use of various exclusion diets in unselected people with atopic eczema, but this may be because they were not allergic to those substances in the first</p>	One RCT evaluated the effects of a new thickened amino acid-based formula (TAAF, Novalac), containing a pectin-based thickener, and a reference amino acid-based formula (RAAF, Neocate) on allergy symptoms and safety, through blood biochemistry analysis and growth in infants <18 months with cow's-milk allergy symptoms <sup>19</sup> . The intervention group (TAAF) showed more improvements on the dominant allergic symptom, the	A stakeholder suggested to add a piece of evidence under this question which was already included under clinical question number 6. This is an RCT on early peanut introduction in infants with eczema leading to 86% reduction in peanut allergy at 5 years <sup>12</sup> .	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>The evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance review was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations because there was no high quality evidence and the guideline already includes a recommendation to refer children with suspected food allergy for a specialist investigation and management of the atopic eczema and</p>

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<p>place <sup>17,18</sup>.</p> <p>At the 4 year surveillance review, this evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>Scoring Atopic Dermatitis Index, the quality of night time, and the frequency of irritability signs. The TAAF group also had normal stools compared to the RAAF group. All of the biochemical parameters were within normal ranges with both formulas. There were no differences between the 2 groups in any of the anthropometric z scores.</p>		<p>allergy.</p> <p>New evidence identified at the 8 year surveillance review showed improvements in infants who took an amino acid-based formula in place of cow's milk which is in line with the current guideline recommendation which states that 'Healthcare professionals should offer a 6–8 week trial of an extensively hydrolysed protein formula or amino acid formula in place of cow's milk formula for bottle-fed infants aged under 6 months with moderate or severe atopic eczema that has not been controlled by optimal treatment with emollients and mild topical corticosteroids.'</p>
<p><b><u>Treatment</u> - Stepped approach to management</b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 11</b> What management strategies are appropriate for different ages and cultural groups? (<a href="#">1.4.1.3</a>, <a href="#">1.4.1.7</a>, <a href="#">1.4.1.9</a>, <a href="#">1.5.2.4</a>, <a href="#">1.5.3.6-1.5.3.7</a>, <a href="#">1.5.4.2-1.5.4.4</a>, <a href="#">1.5.6.3</a>, <a href="#">1.6.1.2</a>)</p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>None identified relevant to this question.</p>	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.</p>

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<b>57 – 12 What is the most effective and safe way of combining different forms of therapy (for example, emollients, topical corticosteroids, bandaging techniques and calcineurin inhibitors)? (<a href="#">1.5.2.1-1.5.2.2</a>, <a href="#">1.5.2.8</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.2-1.5.5.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.5</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.6-1.5.7.7</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>57 – 13 How should atopic eczema in children be managed and monitored between flare-ups (maintenance therapy)? (<a href="#">1.5.1.1-1.5.1.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.3.9</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	A topic expert referred to a systematic review of RCTs of proactive treatment for atopic eczema with topical corticosteroids and calcineurin inhibitors <sup>20</sup> . This systematic review concluded that topical tacrolimus, fluticasone propionate and methylprednisolone aceponate were more efficacious to prevent flares than topical corticosteroids and calcineurin inhibitors vehicle alone. This indirect evidence from vehicle-controlled trials suggested that twice weekly application of the potent topical corticosteroid fluticasone propionate may be more efficacious to	New evidence is consistent with guideline recommendations. The guideline already recommends the use of topical corticosteroids to prevent flares.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			

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		prevent AE flares than tacrolimus ointment. It was noted that the included trials did not allow firm conclusions about long-term safety. From the information in the abstract, it is unclear if children were included.	
<b>57 – 14 How should flare-ups of atopic eczema in children be identified and managed? (<a href="#">1.4.1.3</a>, <a href="#">1.4.1.11</a>, <a href="#">1.5.1.1-1.5.1.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.3.2</a>, <a href="#">1.5.3.9</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.6.3</a>, <a href="#">1.7.1.3</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b>4-year review (2011)</b>  One study evaluated the use of an evidence based treatment algorithm, finding it to be effective and applicable for the management of atopic eczema. However it did not show clear advantages compared to individualised treatment in a dermatological setting <sup>21</sup>.</p> <p>At the 4 year surveillance review this evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b>  No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.  The evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance review was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations. No new evidence was identified in the 8-year surveillance review to change this conclusion.

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<b>Treatment - Emollients</b>			
<b>57 – 15 What types of emollients are available for atopic eczema in children, how effective are they, what quantities should be used, and how often should they be used? (1.5.1.1, 1.5.2.1-1.5.2.8, 1.5.5.2-1.5.5.3, 1.5.5.5, 1.5.9.4-1.5.9.5)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b>4-year review (2011)</b></p> <p>Three studies addressed the effectiveness of emollients.</p> <p>One study indicated emollient use during corticosteroid treatment improves xerosis and pruritus, and maintains clinical improvements after therapy discontinuation<sup>22</sup>. Triclosan-containing leave-on emollient was safe and highly acceptable to patients. However, the overall benefit on day 27 was not significant<sup>23</sup>. A study looking at a ceramide-dominant, physiological-lipid based formulation found it was an effective stand-alone or ancillary therapy for many paediatric patients with atopic dermatitis (AD)<sup>24</sup>.</p> <p>In addition, two studies were highlighted through stakeholder consultation undertaken at the 4 year surveillance. One study found that both an emollient or an emollient enriched with furfuryl</p>	<p>Three RCTs investigated the effect of a range of emollients in the treatment of atopic dermatitis in children.</p> <p>One RCT compared 3% glycerine against a basic emollient<sup>28</sup>. The second RCT compared four emollients: emulsifying ointment, glycerine/petroleum (proportion 1:2), cetomacrogol, white petroleum jelly<sup>29</sup>. The third RCT compared a pro-AMP cream (containing rhamnosoft, ceramides, and L-isoleucine) against an emollient cream<sup>30</sup>.</p> <p>The studies reported significant improvements on SCORAD score<sup>28,29</sup>, Patient Oriented-SCORAD score<sup>28</sup>, Facial Eczema Severity Score<sup>30</sup>, the number of relapses and their intensity, skin moisturising, itching sensations, and quality of life of children and of the whole family<sup>28</sup>. One study included children aged from 6 months to 15 years but it is unclear, from an assessment of the</p>	<p>One topic expert referred to an intervention study which concluded that emollient aqueous cream BP used as a leave-on emollient caused severe damage to the skin barrier in volunteers with a previous history of atopic dermatitis. However, the abstract did not report the age of participants<sup>31</sup>.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a safety issue from the MHRA which warns healthcare professionals about adverse effects from aqueous cream containing sodium lauryl sulfate: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/aqueous-cream-may-cause-skin-irritation">https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/aqueous-cream-may-cause-skin-irritation</a>. This MHRA warning includes different evidence to the evidence reported during the 4-year surveillance review. One topic expert provided further evidence about adverse effects of chronic use of aqueous cream which was associated with increased desquamatory and inflammatory protease activity<sup>32</sup>.</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>The 4 year surveillance review concluded that it would be pertinent to await further evidence, particularly on the harms associated with emollients, before an update is commissioned.</p> <p>New evidence was identified at the 8 year surveillance about the beneficial effects of a range of emollients on atopic eczema. However, evidence from an updated systematic review was mixed and meta-analyses were not considered adequate. Therefore, the evidence was not considered to affect current recommendations which state that 'emollients should form the basis of atopic eczema management and should always be used, even when the atopic eczema is clear'. An MHRA safety alert was identified through this surveillance which warns about adverse effects from</p>

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<p>palmitate were efficacious in treating atopic dermatitis in children, but the emollient cream not containing furfuryl palmitate showed better clinical efficacy<sup>25</sup>. Topic expert feedback suggested that furfuryl palmitate is not available to prescribe in the UK. A further study indicated that pale sulfonated shale oil cream is capable to treat mild to moderate atopic eczema in children more efficaciously than vehicle and is well tolerated<sup>26</sup>. A study found that MPA twice weekly plus an emollient provides an effective maintenance treatment regimen to control AD<sup>27</sup>.</p> <p>It was concluded at the 4 year surveillance review that it would be pertinent to await further evidence, particularly on the harms associated with emollients, before an update is commissioned.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>abstract, how many children under 12 years old were included<sup>28</sup>.</p>	<p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children (7 trials). The results were mixed with 2 trials showing benefits and 5 trials reporting no differences between interventions and comparisons. There were also 3 trials in children evaluating Atopiclair. Atopiclair was listed under 'other topical treatments' but described as a 'medical device emollient cream'. Therefore, these 3 trials were considered as new evidence for emollients. The results from these trials were also mixed with 2 trials showing benefits and 1 trial reporting no differences between intervention and comparison.</p>	<p>aqueous cream containing sodium lauryl sulfate. It would be useful to include a link from the guideline recommendations on emollients to the MHRA safety alert: <a href="#">Aqueous cream: may cause skin irritation in Drug Safety Update March 2013</a></p>
<p><b><u>Treatment</u> - Topical corticosteroids</b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 16</b> How effective and safe are topical corticosteroids for atopic eczema in children, and when and how often should they be used? (<a href="#">1.5.1.1</a>, <a href="#">1.5.3.1-1.5.3.10</a>, <a href="#">1.5.4.2-1.5.4.4</a>, <a href="#">1.5.4.8</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.5</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.6</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.8</a>)</p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b></p>			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> Results from 1 study demonstrated the safety and efficacy of Hydrocortisone butyrate (HCB) 0.1% lotion in four weeks of treatment for the treatment of mild to moderate AD in children 3 months to 18 years of age<sup>33</sup>. A second study found that HCB 0.1% in a lipocream (LCr) vehicle is more effective than LCr vehicle alone in paediatric populations down to 3 months of age without significant adverse events when used twice a day for up to 1 month<sup>34</sup>.</p> <p>A study of fluticasone propionate (FP) ointment showed that the addition of twice weekly FP to standard maintenance therapy significantly reduces the risk of relapse in children with moderate severe AD<sup>35</sup>.</p> <p>At the 4 year surveillance review this evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>An RCT compared pimecrolimus 1% cream (including short-term topical corticosteroids for disease flares) with topical corticosteroids in infants with atopic dermatitis<sup>36</sup>. After 5 years, more infants with topical corticosteroids achieved overall and facial treatment success. The pimecrolimus group required substantially fewer steroid days than the topical corticosteroids group. The profile and frequency of adverse events was similar in the 2 groups. This RCT concluded that pimecrolimus was safe and effective as a first-line treatment of mild-to-moderate atopic eczema in infants and children 3 months and older. Long-term management of mild-to-moderate AD in infants with PIM or TCSs was safe without any effect on the immune system.</p>	<p>There was a comment from one topic expert related to the study by Sigurgeirsson et al. (2015)<sup>36</sup> stating that the main rationale for introducing topical pimecrolimus was that it does not cause skin thinning (on the premise that normal use of mild to moderate topical corticosteroids do) but only one patient (out of 1205) had clinical skin thinning i.e. there does not appear to be a problem with skin thinning of topical corticosteroids use for mild to moderate eczema.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to an RCT comparing betamethasone valerate (0.1%) cream (BMVc) against tacrolimus (0.1%) ointment (TACo)<sup>37</sup>. It was concluded that the results supported the proactive use of TACo to promote reparation of the subclinical barrier defect in atopic dermatitis. However, the abstract did not report the age of participants.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children with mixed</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>Through surveillance reviews, evidence was identified providing mixed results about the beneficial effects of topical corticosteroids for the treatment of eczema and flare prevention. The current guideline recommends to use topical corticosteroids and to discuss benefits and harms with children with atopic eczema and their parents or carers. Current guidance on topical corticosteroids is included in the technology appraisal TA81: <a href="#">Frequency of application of topical corticosteroids for atopic eczema</a> (August 2004) which is mentioned in the guideline. This information was passed onto the Technology Appraisals team for consideration when the topic undergoes the review proposal process.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
		<p>results about the benefit of topical corticosteroids for the treatment of eczema and flare prevention (4 trials showed benefit, 3 trials reported no differences between topical corticosteroids and active treatments, and 2 trials did not report results for severity of atopic eczema). This systematic review<sup>16</sup> also found evidence suggesting no clinically useful benefit of corticosteroids containing antimicrobials for non-infected eczema.</p>	
<p><b><u>Treatment</u> - Topical calcineurin inhibitors</b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 17 What are the indications and precautions for using topical calcineurin inhibitors (pimecrolimus and tacrolimus) for atopic eczema in children and how effective and safe are they? (<a href="#">1.5.1.1</a>, <a href="#">1.5.4.1-1.5.4.8</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> Six studies reported topical calcineurin inhibitors (TCIs) were effective at preventing flares and their use was at no additional cost for moderate eczema, and increased cost effectiveness for severe eczema<sup>38-43</sup>. Four studies reported that TCIs were safe and effective for long term use up to 4 years<sup>40,44-46</sup>. Ten studies found that TCI's were safe and effective,</p>	<p>An RCT reported that 0.03% tacrolimus ointment was effective at reducing the eczema area and severity index (EASI) score and well tolerated<sup>67</sup>.</p> <p>An RCT compared pimecrolimus 1% cream (including short-term topical corticosteroids for disease flares) with topical corticosteroids in infants with atopic dermatitis<sup>36</sup>. After 5 years, more</p>	<p>One topic expert referred to a study with new data on safety and efficacy of TCIs in children. This longitudinal cohort study reported that it seems unlikely that topical pimecrolimus is associated with an increased risk of malignancy<sup>68</sup>.</p> <p>There was a comment from one topic expert related to the study by Sigurgeirsson et al. (2015)<sup>36</sup> stating that</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>The evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance review was not considered to contradict current recommendations on the use of TCIs to treat moderate to severe atopic eczema.</p> <p>During the 8 year surveillance, new evidence was identified evaluating the</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p>relieving itch and improving QoL <sup>47-56</sup>. Eight additional studies found no increase in adverse effects such as, lymphoma, systemic absorption, malignancy, skin infections, and growth in children who had or were using TCIs <sup>44,57-63</sup>.</p> <p>One study reported that maintenance therapy with tacrolimus ointment (0.03% or 0.1%) was associated with significantly more flare-free days compared with tacrolimus vehicle <sup>64</sup>. A commentary on this study found that similar results were seen with topical fluticasone propionate which is a topical corticosteroid <sup>65</sup>. However, it was noted that the study on maintenance therapy with tacrolimus only included participants who responded to topical tacrolimus in the stabilisation phase of the trial <sup>64,65</sup>. One study found tacrolimus to be more effective than topical corticosteroid in 72 of the 93 children (77%) who completed the study <sup>66</sup>.</p> <p>Overall, the identified new evidence was not considered to contradict current recommendations on the use of TCIs to treat moderate to severe atopic eczema. However, the new evidence also suggested that TCIs may be effective in</p>	<p>infants with topical corticosteroids achieved overall and facial treatment success. The pimecrolimus group required substantially fewer steroid days than the topical corticosteroids group. The profile and frequency of adverse events was similar in the 2 groups. This RCT concluded that pimecrolimus was safe and effective as a first-line treatment of mild-to-moderate atopic eczema in infants and children 3 months and older.</p>	<p>the main rationale for introducing topical pimecrolimus was that it does not cause skin thinning (on the premise that normal use of mild to moderate topical corticosteroids do) but only one patient (out of 1205) had clinical skin thinning i.e. there does not appear to be a problem with skin thinning of topical corticosteroids use for mild to moderate eczema.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to an RCT comparing betamethasone valerate (0.1%) cream (BMVc) against tacrolimus (0.1%) ointment (TACo) <sup>37</sup>. It was concluded that the results supported the proactive use of TACo to promote reparation of the subclinical barrier defect in atopic dermatitis. However, the abstract did not report the age of participants.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children reporting mixed results about the benefit of topical tacrolimus and pimecrolimus for the treatment of eczema and flare prevention (19 trials). Topical calcineurin inhibitors were better than placebo in 5 out of 6</p>	<p>use of tacrolimus and pimecrolimus in children and adults moderate to severe atopic eczema. Current guidance on tacrolimus and pimecrolimus is included in the technology appraisal TA82: <a href="#">Tacrolimus and pimecrolimus for atopic eczema</a> (August 2004) which is mentioned in the guideline. This information was passed onto the Technology Appraisals team for consideration when the topic undergoes the review proposal process.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p>preventing flares, is safe for long-term use, and could be more effective than corticosteroids. This evidence was considered to suggest there are developments in this area of the guideline.</p> <p>The 4 year surveillance noted that the licensing of this intervention has changed since the current guideline was published. However, it was concluded that this is a small area of the guideline, and may not be significant enough to warrant an update of the guideline. The guideline incorporates the recommendations from the technology appraisal TA82: <a href="#">Tacrolimus and pimecrolimus for atopic eczema</a> (August 2004) which states that pimecrolimus and tacrolimus should be used within their licensed indications as second line treatments when conventional therapies have failed. Long term safety data was noted to be lacking at the 4 year surveillance. Therefore the existing guideline recommendations were considered to still stand.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> A meta-analysis comparing tacrolimus with pimecrolimus in the treatment of AD was identified at the 6 year surveillance</p>		<p>trials. There were no differences between topical calcineurin inhibitors and other active treatments in 5 trials out of 6 trials. Tacrolimus and pimecrolimus were compared in 7 trials: 3 trials reported that tacrolimus was better, 1 trial reported that pimecrolimus was better, and 3 trials reported no differences.</p>	

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
but we have subsequently found out that it has been retracted.			
<b>Treatment - Dry bandages and medicated dressings including wet wrap therapy</b>			
<b>57 – 18 What types of dry bandages and medicated dressings (including wet wrap therapies) are available for atopic eczema in children, how effective and safe are they (particularly when combined with topical corticosteroids), and when and how often should they be used? (<a href="#">1.5.1.1</a>, <a href="#">1.5.5.1-1.5.5.5</a>)</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	<p>A topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from 5 trials including children about the use of topical corticosteroids with occlusive therapy (wet wrap bandages). The studies reported mixed results regarding the beneficial effect of using topical corticosteroids with occlusive therapy: 2 trials reported benefits with wet wrap bandages, 1 trial reported benefits without wet wrap bandages, 1 trial reported no differences and 1 trial did not conduct a comparison between treatment groups.</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>During the 8-year surveillance review, evidence was identified providing mixed results about the beneficial effects of topical corticosteroids with occlusive therapy (wet wrap bandages) for the treatment of eczema. The current guideline recommends the use of medicated dressings or dry bandages with topical corticosteroids for short treatment of flares or areas of chronic lichenified atopic eczema in children or for longer with specialist dermatological advice.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>Treatment - Antihistamines</b>			
<b>57 – 19 How effective and safe are antihistamines in the management of atopic eczema in children of different ages? (1.5.6.1-1.5.6.3)</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>Two RCTs reported contradictory results on 4% sodium cromoglicate cutaneous emulsion compared to its vehicle <sup>69,70</sup>. One RCT reported significant reduction in SCORAD and Six Area, Six Sign Atopic Dermatitis (SASSAD) and treatment success with sodium cromoglicate and that application site discomfort was reported similarly between the 2 groups <sup>69</sup>. The other RCT reported that there were no differences in the reduction of SCORAD scores, symptom severity, quality of life, concomitant treatment usage, and global assessments between the 2 groups <sup>70</sup>. Thirty-two children reported treatment related events (abstract does not mention what these are) and eleven children reported application site discomfort <sup>70</sup>.</p>	<p>Topic expert feedback suggested that there is no licensed UK preparation of 4% sodium cromoglicate cutaneous emulsion.</p> <p>A topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review <sup>16</sup> found new evidence about the use of antihistamines for the treatment of atopic eczema in children (6 trials). Five of these trials did not provide evidence of a beneficial effect of using antihistamines in children.</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>During the 8-year surveillance review, new evidence was identified on treatment with 4% sodium cromoglicate cutaneous emulsion reporting contradictory results. Sodium cromoglicate was considered in the guideline but no recommendations were made as the Guideline Committee did not feel there was good evidence to support its use. New evidence on sodium cromoglicate was identified through the 8 year surveillance but the results were inconsistent. There was also new evidence on the lack of effect using antihistamines and the severity of atopic eczema of children participating in these RCTs was unclear. NICE guideline CG57 recommends that oral antihistamines should not be used routinely in the management of atopic eczema in children. Overall, there is a lack of consistent evidence in this area to impact</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
			on the guideline at this time.
<b>57 – 20 How effective and safe are other antipruritic (anti-itching) agents for atopic eczema in children and when should they be used? (No recommendation made in the guideline)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b><u>Treatment - Treatments for infections</u></b>			
<b>57 – 21 What types of clinically significant secondary infections occur in atopic eczema in children and how should they be identified? (<a href="#">1.5.3.6</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.1-1.5.7.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.8</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.12</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>57 – 22 Which antimicrobial agents (including antiseptics) are effective and appropriate for treating infected atopic eczema in children? (<a href="#">1.5.7.4-1.5.7.7</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.9-1.5.7.11</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b>			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b>  Seven studies addressing the question were identified. Two studies found a beneficial effect of silk garments treated with an antibacterial agent<sup>71,72</sup>. Overall evidence for the effectiveness of topical and systemic antibiotics/ antimicrobials was mixed<sup>21,73-75</sup>.</p> <p>Overall, the identified new evidence was considered to support current guideline recommendations that systemic antibiotics should be used to treat widespread infections and topical antibiotics should be reserved for cases of localised infection. There was felt to be a lack of robust evidence on the effectiveness of silk fabrics treated with an antibacterial agent.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b>  No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	<p>A topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence about the use of antimicrobials including antibiotics, antiseptics and antifungal agents. However, the results from 5 RCTs provided contradictory results with the use of different antimicrobials in children with eczema.</p> <p>A topic expert referred to a small RCT<sup>76</sup> comparing 7 days of oral flucloxacillin, topical fusidic acid and placebo in children who had infected eczema (n=113). The ChildRen with Eczema Antibiotic Management (CREAM) trial reported that these antibiotics had no effect or a worse effect on eczema symptoms measured with the Patient-Oriented Eczema Measure (POEM). There were important limitations in this trial which should be considered to interpret the results such as exclusions (children with severe infection) and lack of power due to problems during recruitment.</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>The evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance review was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations because this evidence supports current guideline recommendations that systemic antibiotics should be used to treat widespread infections and topical antibiotics should be reserved for cases of localised infection.</p> <p>During the 8-year surveillance review, new evidence was found regarding the use of antimicrobials but the evidence showed contradictory results. Therefore, this evidence was not considered to affect current recommendations.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>57 – 23 How should antiseptic and antimicrobial resistance be managed in children with infected atopic eczema and what measures can be taken to reduce the risk of resistance developing? (<a href="#">1.5.7.3</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.5-1.5.7.6</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b><u>Treatment - Phototherapy and systemic treatments</u></b>			
<b>57 – 24 What are the indications and precautions for using phototherapy for atopic eczema in children, how effective and safe is it and what form of phototherapy and length of treatment should be offered? (<a href="#">1.5.1.1</a>, <a href="#">1.5.8.1-1.5.8.2</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> One study indicated that phototherapy is an effective and well-tolerated treatment modality in children and it should be considered a possible treatment option for children with diseases including atopic dermatitis <sup>77</sup> .  Overall, the new evidence identified does not contradict current recommendations on the use of phototherapy only for the treatment of severe atopic eczema in	No relevant evidence identified.	One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review <sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children about the benefit of full-spectrum light treatments (1 trial) for eczema and mixed results about the benefit of ultraviolet A/B treatments (2 trials).	New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.  During the 4 year surveillance review, new evidence was identified about the effectiveness and tolerance of phototherapy.  During the 8 year surveillance, new evidence was found about the benefit of phototherapy with mixed results.  The evidence identified at the 4 year and

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p>children when other management options have failed or are inappropriate.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>			<p>8 year surveillance reviews was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations because the studies were small, two studies did not do between-group comparisons and it was unclear if the participants had previously failed treatment. Current recommendations suggest the use of phototherapy for the treatment of severe atopic eczema in children when other management options have failed or are inappropriate.</p>
<p><b>57 – 25 What are the indications and precautions for using systemic immune suppressants (such as ciclosporin, azathioprine, and mycophenolate mofetil) for atopic eczema in children, how effective and safe are they, and how should their use be monitored? (1.5.1.1, <a href="#">1.5.8.1-1.5.8.2</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>One RCT estimated the effectiveness of basic therapy + immune modulator compared to basic therapy in children with exacerbation of moderate atopic dermatitis and to investigate the serum level-time profiles of antiinflammatory cytokines and neutrophil phagocytic rate <sup>78</sup>. The study included children from 5-17 years old but it is unclear from an assessment of the abstract how many children were under 12. There was a</p>	<p>One topic expert referred to a critical appraisal<sup>80</sup> of an RCT. This RCT concluded that both methotrexate and ciclosporin in low doses are clinically effective, relatively safe, and well tolerated as treatments for severe atopic eczema in children <sup>81</sup>.</p> <p>However, methotrexate oral solution 2mg.ml is not licensed for use in children and not licensed for eczema either. See license <a href="#">here</a>. Methotrexate is <a href="#">listed in the</a></p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance review showing that methotrexate and ciclosporin in low doses are clinically effective, relatively safe, and well tolerated as treatments for severe atopic eczema in children. However, this new evidence comes from a small study (n=40 children with atopic eczema)</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
	<p>significant reduction of inflammation, no skin lesions, decreased severity of atopic eczema, normalisation of phagocytic index and phagocytic number, and IFN elevation in the intervention group. The addition of basic therapy + immune modulator in children with exacerbation of moderate atopic dermatitis lead to significant clinic immunological improvement.</p> <p>One RCT compared the clinical effect of sublingual allergen immunotherapy with placebo in the severity of atopic dermatitis in children sensitised to D. pteronyssinus (the dust mite species with the highest prevalence)<sup>79</sup>. The SCORAD score decreased significantly more in the sublingual allergen immunotherapy group compared to the placebo group.</p>	<p><a href="#">BNFC</a> but only for severe resistant psoriasis. Mycophenolate mofetil is also <a href="#">listed in the BNFC</a> for severe refractory eczema.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children about the benefit of systemic immune suppressants such as montelukast (2 trials), sensitisation to house dust mite allergens (2 trials), and intravenous immunoglobulin (1 trial).</p>	<p>conducted in Egypt.</p> <p>There was also new evidence about the addition of basic therapy + immune modulator in children with exacerbation of moderate atopic dermatitis which lead to significant clinic immunological improvement. However, this evidence comes from one RCT and it is unclear how many children under 12 years old were included.</p> <p>A systematic review found new evidence about the benefit of systemic immune suppressants such as montelukast, sensitisation to house dust mite allergens, and intravenous immunoglobulin.</p> <p>The current guideline already recommends considering systemic treatments for the treatment of severe atopic eczema in children when other management options have failed or are inappropriate and where there is a significant negative impact on quality of life.</p>
<b><a href="#">Treatment</a> - Complementary therapies</b>			
<b>57 – 26 How effective and safe is homeopathy for managing atopic eczema in children? (<a href="#">1.5.9.1-1.5.9.3-1.5.9.4</a>)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b>			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<b>57 – 27 How effective and safe are Chinese, Western and other herbal medicines for managing atopic eczema in children? (<a href="#">1.5.9.1-1.5.9.4</a>)</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> One study was identified which concluded that a traditional Chinese herbal medicine (TCHM) concoction is efficacious in improving quality of life and reducing topical corticosteroid use in children with moderate-to-severe AD<sup>52</sup>. This evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>One RCT compared three treatments: 1) oral administration of the Chinese herbal formula Pei Tu Qing Xin Tang (PTQXT); 2) oral administration of PTQXT combined with an external application of Chinese herbs; 3) oral administration of antihistamine and a placebo of PTQXT pills added to topical 1% mometasone furoate for treating patients aged 5-25 years with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis<sup>82</sup>. The abstract did not report the number of children under 12 years old. The mean SCORAD decreased significantly and gradually in all three groups at short term but at long term there was a significantly greater decrease in the mean SCORAD for the Chinese herbal medicine-treated groups compared</p>	<p>One topic expert mentioned that it is difficult to find a document on the MHRA website which was linked to footnote 4<sup>[4]</sup>. See 'Using herbal medicines: advice to consumers'. July 2006, <a href="#">MHRA</a> within the <a href="#">CG57 online</a>. This document may have been removed and this may need to link to something else. The MHRA published information about the safety of herbal medicines in 2008: <a href="#">Herbal medicines: new help available when advising patients about safe use</a>. This new publication relates to the previous publication in 2006.</p> <p>One topic expert mentioned a systematic review of RCTs of Chinese herbal medicines (oral and topical) for the</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>New evidence was identified about a Chinese herbal medicines showing inconclusive evidence about improvements in atopic eczema. The current guideline states that the effectiveness and safety of complementary therapies have not yet been adequately assessed in clinical studies and warns about the use of herbal medicines in children and to be wary of any herbal product that is not labelled in English or does not come with information about safe usage. On that basis, it would be premature to consider for inclusion in the guideline at this time.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
	to the control group. The difference in quality of life scores showed a significantly greater improvement in both Chinese herbal medicine-treated groups compared to the control group.	<p>management of eczema in children and adults<sup>83</sup>. It was concluded that there was no conclusive evidence that Chinese herbal medicines taken by mouth or applied topically to the skin could reduce the severity of eczema in children or adults.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children about the lack of benefit of Chinese herbal medicines (2 trials).</p>	
<b>57 – 28 How effective and safe are other complementary therapies (for example, hypnotherapy) for managing atopic eczema in children? (1.5.9.1)</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> Ten studies addressed the use of probiotics for managing and treating eczema in children. Four studies showed a beneficial effect<sup>84-87</sup>. Five studies showed no beneficial effect<sup>88-92</sup>. Overall, the review concluded that there is still insufficient conclusive evidence on the</p>	<p><b>Probiotics</b> Three RCTs reported that probiotics improved SCORAD<sup>93,94</sup>, FDLQI, CDLQI<sup>94</sup>, EASI and visual analogue scale for pruritus (VASP) scores<sup>95</sup> compared to placebo in children with atopic dermatitis.</p> <p><b>Vitamin supplements</b> Two RCTs reported that vitamin</p>	<p>One topic expert mentioned an RCT reporting that water softeners for the treatment of eczema in children provide no benefit<sup>102</sup>.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review which concluded that there was no convincing evidence of the benefit of dietary supplements on eczema but it is</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b>Probiotics</b> During the 4 year surveillance, new evidence was identified about the use of probiotics for managing and treating eczema in children but it was concluded that there was insufficient conclusive</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p>effectiveness of probiotics.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></p> <p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>supplements improved SCORAD<sup>96</sup> and EASI scores as well as Investigator's Global Assessment<sup>97</sup> in children with atopic dermatitis compared to placebo. Camargo (2014) reported a mean age of 9 years (standard deviation 5)<sup>97</sup>.</p> <p><b>Other topical treatments</b></p> <p>Three RCTs investigated the effect of a range of topical therapies in the treatment of atopic dermatitis in children.</p> <p>One RCT compared topical virgin coconut oil against a mineral oil<sup>98</sup>. The second RCT compared a moisturiser containing licochalcone A (Lic A) against 1% hydrocortisone<sup>99</sup>. The third RCT compared a moisturiser containing spent grain wax, Butyrospermum parkii extract and Argania spinosa kernel oil (S cream) against 1% hydrocortisone cream (HC cream)<sup>100</sup>.</p> <p>The studies reported significant improvements on SCORAD score<sup>98-100</sup>, transepidermal water loss<sup>98,99</sup>, and skin capacitance<sup>98</sup>. Wananukul (2013) included children between 3 months and 14 years but is unclear, from an assessment of the abstract, how many children were under 12 years old<sup>99</sup>.</p>	<p>unclear, from an assessment of the abstract, if studies in children were included<sup>103</sup>.</p> <p>One topic expert mentioned a systematic review of the effects of oral primrose oil and borage oil for treating the symptoms of atopic eczema<sup>104</sup>. The systematic review included randomised controlled, parallel, and cross-over trials. It was concluded that both oral borage oil and evening primrose oil lack effect on eczema; improvement was similar to respective placebos used in trials. The included studies did not examine possible adverse effects of long-term use of both oral borage oil and evening primrose oil. From the information in the abstract, it is unclear if children were included.</p> <p>One topic expert mentioned a study which included adult volunteers reporting that olive oil damaged the skin compared to sunflower seed oil. The abstract included a sentence about infants suggesting that 'the use of olive oil for the treatment of dry skin and infant massage should therefore be discouraged'<sup>105</sup>.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a United States (US) population-based study</p>	<p>evidence on the effectiveness of probiotics. New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance showing improvements in severity of eczema and quality of life.</p> <p><b>Vitamin supplements</b></p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance about the beneficial effects of vitamin supplements on atopic eczema.</p> <p><b>Other topical treatments</b></p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance about the beneficial effects of a range of topical therapies on atopic eczema and the harmful effect of complementary therapies to the skin like olive oil.</p> <p><b>Clothing</b></p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance about the beneficial effects of clothing made of cellulose fibres with seaweed enriched with silver ions, DermaSilk sleeves, anion textiles, and silver textile with prednicarbate ointment.</p> <p><b>Water softeners</b></p> <p>New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance showing no benefit of</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
	<p>Jirabundansuk (2014) included participants aged between 2 and 15 years old but the abstract did not report the number of children under 12 years old <sup>100</sup>.</p> <p><b>Clothing</b> One RCT evaluated the efficacy and safety of clothing made of cellulose fibres with seaweed enriched with silver ions in the treatment of children with atopic dermatitis <sup>101</sup>. The SCORAD index significantly improved in the group with the fibre under study and there was also a significantly relevant reduction of the intensity of pruritus and an improvement in the sleep quality compared with the control group wearing placebo clothing.</p>	<p>concluding that complementary and alternative medicine may be harmful to the skin and be associated with higher eczema prevalence in children 0 to 17 years in the US <sup>106</sup>.</p> <p>One topic expert mentioned that an unlicensed topical preparation of Vaseline contaminated with faecal bacteria and corticosteroid has been purchased in the UK by some parents of children with atopic eczema. However, the guideline recommendations already advise that children with atopic eczema and their parents and carers should be informed that the effectiveness and safety of complementary therapies have not yet been adequately assessed in clinical studies.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The systematic review <sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children on:</p> <p><b>Dietary interventions</b> The included trials in the systematic review showed mixed evidence about the use of dietary interventions such as</p>	<p>water softeners on atopic eczema.</p> <p><b>Dietary supplements</b> New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance showing no convincing evidence of the benefit of dietary supplements on atopic eczema.</p> <p><b>Other interventions</b> New evidence was identified during the 8 year surveillance showing no convincing evidence of the benefit of other interventions on atopic eczema such as dermatology nurse consultations, support groups, e-health portal, ion-exchange water softeners, house dust mite reduction, living in a different climate, additional visits to a doctor, vaccines, massage, P. leucotomos extract, and balneotherapy.</p> <p>Overall, the clinical guideline warns against the use of complementary therapies because the effectiveness and safety of these therapies have not yet been adequately assessed in clinical studies. On that basis, it would be premature to consider this evidence for inclusion in the guideline at this time.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
		<p>probiotics, prebiotics, synbiotics, fatty acid supplementation, oral evening primrose and borage oil, vitamin D and E, goat's milk and hypoallergenic formula. Most of the trials (19 trials out of 32) reported no significant difference in severity of eczema between interventions and comparisons.</p> <p><b>Other topical treatments</b>  There were 14 trials evaluating other topical treatments. However, 3 of these trials have been reported under clinical question 57-15 because the topical treatment was an emollient (Atopiclair). The evidence was mixed for the rest of the topical treatments including antibacterial bath additives, furfuryl palmitate, pill mask, shale oil, vitreoscilla filiformis, topical vitamin B12, carbohydrate-derived fulvic acid, bacterial antigens, lipoxin A4, licochalcone A, and AR-GG27.</p> <p><b>Specialised clothing</b>  Most of the trials (4 trials out of 6) reported benefits with specialised clothing, such as DermaSilk sleeves, anion textiles, and silver textile with prednicarbate ointment. No differences were reported with ethylene vinyl alcohol</p>	

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
		<p>fibre fabric and silver filaments.</p> <p><b>Other interventions</b></p> <p>The included trials in the systematic review showed mixed evidence about the use of other interventions such as dermatology nurse consultations, support groups, e-health portal, ion-exchange water softeners, house dust mite reduction, living in a different climate, additional visits to a doctor, vaccines, massage, P. leucotomos extract, and balneotherapy. Most of the trials (9 trials out of 15) reported no significant difference in severity of eczema between interventions and comparisons.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Education and adherence to therapy</a></p>			
<p><b>57 – 29</b> What factors contribute to non-adherence to therapy and how can adherence be improved? <a href="#">(1.6.1.1-1.6.1.2)</a></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>No relevant evidence identified.</p>	<p>One topic expert suggested 2 studies on treatment adherence. A qualitative study found that barriers to treatment adherence included carer beliefs around eczema treatment, the time consuming nature of applying topical treatments, and child resistance to treatment. The family</p>	<p>New evidence is unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p>New evidence was identified relating to treatment adherence which is in line with the current guideline recommendation which states that healthcare professionals should address factors that affect</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
		strategies reported were focused on working around children's resistance to treatment <sup>107</sup> . A literature search identified factors leading to poor treatment adherence and effective strategies to increase treatment adherence but it is unclear from the abstract whether this is a systematic review <sup>108</sup> .	adherence.
<b>57 – 30 How effective are education programmes for children with atopic eczema and their families/carers? (1.6.1.1-1.6.1.3)</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b>4-year review (2011)</b> Four studies were identified which found a beneficial effect of educational programmes however none compared different types of interventions <sup>109-112</sup>. The studies found that training/education programmes had effects on all explored psychological variables and long term disease management. Nurse practitioners delivered care that improved eczema severity and quality of life to that provided by dermatologists and attendance at support groups improved pruritus and QoL. Overall the evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance was considered unlikely to impact on guideline</p>	<p>A systematic review of educational interventions to improve quality of life in people with skin conditions included 2 studies in children with atopic eczema (the other included studies (n=5) were in adults). This systematic review reported that carers of children in one RCT of eczema showed improvement in HRQoL but another RCT evaluating a website intervention did not find effects on HRQoL <sup>113</sup>.</p>	<p>One expert topic suggested 2 studies (an RCT and a systematic review) related to patient and family education. Both studies reported that educational interventions lead to improvements in disease severity and quality of life <sup>114,115</sup>.</p> <p>A stakeholder suggested a pilot RCT of a Web-based intervention to support families of children with eczema <sup>116</sup>. This pilot RCT reported that the severity of atopic eczema in children was decreased more in the website only group compared to the usual care group and the website plus health care professional group.</p> <p>One topic expert referred to a systematic</p>	<p>New evidence is consistent with guideline recommendations.</p> <p>Taken together, the evidence identified through the 4 year and 8 year surveillance reviews indicated that educational interventions lead to improvements in disease severity and quality of life. This is supportive of the guideline which recommends that healthcare professionals should spend time educating children with atopic eczema and their parents or carers about atopic eczema and its treatment.</p>

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p>recommendations.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>		<p>review of treatments for atopic eczema. This publication is an update of a previous version published in 2000. The update<sup>16</sup> found new evidence from trials including children on education interventions with mixed results but most trials showed a benefit using education interventions (4 trials out of 6).</p>	
<p><b>57 – 31 What information and support should be offered to children with atopic eczema and their families/carers? (<a href="#">1.2.1.2</a>, <a href="#">1.2.1.4</a>, <a href="#">1.5.1.2</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.1</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.12</a>, <a href="#">1.5.9.2</a>, <a href="#">1.6.1.1-1.6.1.3</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.
<p><b><u>Indications for referral</u></b></p>			
<p><b>57 – 32 What are the indications for referral for specialist paediatric dermatological advice? (<a href="#">1.5.3.6</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.10</a>, <a href="#">1.5.7.11</a>, <a href="#">1.7.1.1-1.7.1.3</a>)</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b></p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>57 – 33 What factors are involved in growth disturbance in children with atopic eczema and how should they be managed? (1.7.1.6)</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This review question should not be updated.			
<p><b>4-year review (2011)</b> One study was identified which found that short-term growth was not affected in children with mild to moderate atopic eczema<sup>60</sup>. This evidence was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations.</p> <p><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	<p>No new evidence was identified that would affect recommendations.</p> <p>The evidence identified at the 4 year surveillance review was considered unlikely to impact on guideline recommendations because the guideline recommends referring children with atopic eczema for specialist advice relating to growth when they fail to grow at the expected growth trajectory, as reflected by UK growth charts.</p> <p>No new evidence was identified in the 8-year surveillance review to change this conclusion.</p>
<b>Research recommendations</b>			
<b>Diagnosis</b>			
<b>RR – 01 What is the validity of currently used diagnostic criteria for atopic eczema when used in different ethnic groups?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b>Assessment of severity, psychological and psychosocial wellbeing and quality of life</b>			
<b>RR – 02 Does the use of severity tools in the assessment of atopic eczema in children in routine practice improve clinical management and outcome (aiding decisions on treatment strategies, increasing clinical response) and is this a cost-effective use of clinical time?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b>RR – 03 What is the optimal method (in terms of ease of use, accuracy and sensitivity) of measuring the severity of atopic eczema in children in routine clinical practice?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	See 57–02 for new evidence.	See 57-02 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>RR – 04 Which psychological and quality of life scales are the most appropriate for use in clinical practice in children with atopic eczema in terms of guiding management or for outcomes of treatment and is their use effective and cost-effective?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–04 for new evidence.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-04 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> See 57–04 for new evidence.			
<b>Identification and management of trigger factors</b>			
<b>RR – 05 How effective and cost-effective is the use of house dust mite avoidance strategies in the treatment of childhood atopic eczema and which strategies, if any, are the most effective?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	See 57–08 for new evidence.	See 57–08 for new evidence.	See 57-08 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 06 When and how should children with atopic eczema be tested for allergies (skin prick tests, allergen-specific immunoglobulin E), and how can the diagnostic accuracy and effect on clinical outcomes of the tests be improved?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-09 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> See 57–09 for new evidence.			
<b>RR – 07 How should exposure to pets be managed in children with atopic eczema; at what age does allergy occur and does tolerance develop?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 08 What is the optimal feeding regimen in the first year of life for children with established atopic eczema?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> See 57-10 for new evidence.	See 57-10 for new evidence.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-10 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Stepped approach to management</b>			
<b>RR – 09 How should flares of atopic eczema be defined/recognised, what pattern do they take and how useful is this to clinical practice?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b>RR – 10 Which are the best, most cost-effective treatment strategies for managing and preventing flares in children with atopic eczema?</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	See 57-13 for new evidence.	See 57-13 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b>RR – 11 What effect does improving the control of atopic eczema in the first year of life have on the long-term control and severity of atopic eczema and the subsequent development and severity of food allergy, asthma and allergic rhinitis?</b>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> See 57–10 for new evidence.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	See 57–10 for new evidence.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-10 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Emollients</b>			
<b>RR – 12 Which are the most effective and cost-effective combinations of emollient products to use for the treatment of childhood atopic eczema?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<u><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b></u> See 57–15 for new evidence.	See 57–15 for new evidence.	See 57–15 for new evidence.	See 57-15 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<u><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 13 Does the regular use of emollients reduce the severity and frequency of flares and the need for other topical agents in the treatment of atopic eczema in children?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<u><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<u><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Topical corticosteroids</b>			
<b>RR – 14 What are the long-term effects (when used for between 1 and 3 years) of typical use of topical corticosteroids in children with atopic eczema?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	See 57–16 for new evidence.	See 57–16 for new evidence.	See 57-16 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b>RR – 15 What are the optimal treatment regimens for using topical corticosteroids in the treatment of atopic eczema in children?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–16 for new evidence.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	See 57–16 for new evidence.	See 57–16 for new evidence.	See 57-16 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Topical calcineurin inhibitors</b>			
<b>RR – 16 What are the most effective, cost-effective and safe ways of using combinations of topical calcineurin inhibitors with topical corticosteroids of different potencies in the treatment of atopic eczema in children, with particular reference to areas of thin skin such as the face and flexures?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<p><b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	See 57–17 for new evidence.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-17 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>RR – 17 What is the effectiveness and safety of using topical calcineurin inhibitors for treating children with atopic eczema in comparison with using different potencies of topical corticosteroids and does this differ in various body sites such as the face?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57-17 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 18 How effective/cost-effective and safe is the use of topical tacrolimus 0.1% ointment for treating children with atopic eczema?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57-17 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 19 What are the optimal treatment durations when using topical pimecrolimus and tacrolimus in the treatment of children with atopic eczema?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57-17 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>RR – 20 How safe are topical calcineurin inhibitors for long-term therapy (1–3 years) in the treatment of atopic eczema in children?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57–17 for new evidence.	See 57-17 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Dry bandages and medicated dressings (including wet wrap therapy)</b>			
<b>RR – 21 What are the benefits and harms of the different bandaging therapies (for example, wet, dry and medicated bandages) in the treatment of atopic eczema in children?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 22 How effective, cost-effective and safe are wet wrap dressings with emollients alone or in combination with various potencies of topical corticosteroids, for the longer term management (greater than 5 days consecutively) of atopic eczema in children and how do they compare with the use of other topical therapies alone?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<p><b>RR – 23 How effective is the use of topical corticosteroids of different potencies or topical calcineurin inhibitors under occlusion for the treatment of atopic eczema in children and, if effective, for how long can they safely be used?</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p><b>Antihistamines and other antipruritics</b></p>			
<p><b>RR – 24 What is the clinical effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and safety of using sedating and non-sedating antihistamines in children with atopic eczema in terms of the outcomes itch and night-time sleep disturbance?</b></p>			
<p><b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.</p>			
<p><b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p> <p><b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.</p>	See 57–19 for new evidence.	See 57–19 for new evidence.	See 57-19 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Treatment for infections associated with atopic eczema</b>			
<b>RR – 25 What are the prevalence and patterns of antibiotic resistance in children with atopic eczema and how clinically meaningful are these in terms of clinical management and the emergence of multiresistant bacteria?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 26 How should bacterially infected atopic eczema in children be defined, how should it be treated and for how long? What are the indications for use of antimicrobial agents in terms of their clinical effectiveness (including palatability), cost-effectiveness and safety?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> See 57–22 for new evidence.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-22 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Phototherapy and systemic treatments</b>			
<b>RR – 27 How effective, cost-effective and safe is phototherapy in children with severe atopic eczema? How and when should it be used and should it be combined with other topical therapies?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b>			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<u><b>4-year review (2011)</b></u> See 57–24 for new evidence.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-24 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<u><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>RR – 28 How effective, cost-effective and safe are systemic treatment options in children with severe atopic eczema and how and when should they be used? For example: azathioprine, ciclosporin, methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, oral prednisolone and the newer biological agents.</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<u><b>4-year review (2011)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.	See 57–25 for new evidence.	See 57–25 for new evidence.	See 57-25 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<u><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></u> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Complementary therapies</b>			
<b>RR – 29 How effective, cost-effective and safe are complementary therapies for the management of atopic eczema in children and how do they compare with conventional Western therapies?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<u><b>4-year surveillance (2011)</b></u> See 57–28 for new evidence.	See 57–28 for new evidence.	See 57–28 for new evidence.	See 57-28 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<u><b>6-year surveillance (2014)</b></u>			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Treatment</b>			
<b>Behavioural therapies</b>			
<b>RR – 30 Are behavioural and psychological interventions, for example habit reversal techniques, effective in the management of atopic eczema in children and would their use be feasible and cost-effective in clinical practice?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> See 57–05 for new evidence.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-05 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			
<b>Education and adherence to therapy</b>			
<b>RR – 31 How effective and cost-effective are different models of educational programmes in the early management of atopic eczema in children, in terms of improving adherence to therapy and patient outcomes such as disease severity and quality of life?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> See 57–30 for new evidence.	See 57–30 for new evidence.	See 57–30 for new evidence.	See 57-30 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.			

Summary of evidence from previous surveillance	Summary of new evidence from 8-year surveillance	Summary of new intelligence from 8-year surveillance	Impact
<b>Monitoring growth</b>			
<b>RR – 32 Which factors contribute to growth delay in children with severe atopic eczema, how should they be managed and does this impact on their expected final adult height?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year review (2011)</u></b> See 57–33 for new evidence.  <b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	See 57-33 for assessment of the impact of the new evidence.
<b>RR – 33 What is the impact of food allergy on growth in infants with atopic eczema and how should it be managed?</b>			
<b>Surveillance decision</b> This research recommendation will be considered again at the next surveillance point.			
<b><u>4-year surveillance (2011)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.  <b><u>6-year surveillance (2014)</u></b> No relevant evidence identified.	No relevant evidence identified.	None identified relevant to this question.	No new evidence was identified that would affect this research recommendation.

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