

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Scope for guideline update (starting 2025)

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management

NICE is updating its guideline on [Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management \(NG126\)](#). This was prompted by the update on the use of anti-D in the NICE guidance on abortion care.

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

Who the guideline update covers

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

- Women or pregnant people with pain or bleeding due to an ectopic pregnancy or because they are experiencing a miscarriage in the first trimester of pregnancy (that is, up to 12+6 completed weeks of pregnancy).
- Women or people who did not have pain and bleeding while they were pregnant, but who are found to have a missed miscarriage.

Equality considerations

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

Settings

The guideline covers all health, mental health and social care settings in which NHS care or social care is received or commissioned.

We will consider making recommendations or updating existing recommendations on anti-D immunoglobulin prophylaxis.

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

Draft review questions

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

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

Topic of draft review question

1. Should anti-D immunoglobulin prophylaxis be given to women with a threatened miscarriage, miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy in the first trimester?

Economic aspects

We will take economic aspects into account when making recommendations.

We review the economic evidence and, where appropriate, carry out economic modelling and analyses, using an NHS and personal social services perspective.

NICE guidance and quality standards that may be affected by this guideline / guideline update

- Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management (2019, last updated 2023). NICE guideline NG126
- Abortion care (2019, last updated 2025). NICE guideline NG140.
- Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage (2014). NICE quality standard QS69.

Further information

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

The guideline update is expected to be published in May 2026.

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

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

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