

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Scope for guideline update (starting 2025)

Abortion care: anti-D prophylaxis

NICE is updating its guideline on Abortion care NG140.

1 Who the guideline update covers

The current guideline covers women, trans men and non-binary people with female reproductive organs of any age (including people under 18) who request an abortion. The groups covered by the guideline will remain unchanged.

Equality considerations

[The original equality impact assessment for the guideline](#) lists equality issues identified and how they have been addressed and explains why any populations were excluded from the scope.

There are no new equality considerations specific to this update.

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

We will look at the evidence and key external guidance and consider making new recommendations or updating existing recommendations on:

- Anti-D prophylaxis in women, trans men and non-binary people with female reproductive organs having medical or surgical abortions (recommendations 1.3.1 to 1.3.4).

For all other areas of the guideline:

- There will be no evidence review.
- We will retain the existing recommendations but we may revise them to ensure consistency.

3 Draft review questions

We have identified the following draft review question:

For an unsensitized Rh-negative individual seeking abortion at <12 weeks gestation, is no administration of anti-D a safe and effective alternative to routine anti-D administration?

Note that guideline recommendations for medicines will normally fall within licensed indications; exceptionally, and only if clearly supported by evidence, use outside a licensed indication may be recommended. The guideline will assume that prescribers will use a medicine's summary of product characteristics to inform decisions made with individual patients.

4 Economic aspects

We will take economic aspects into account when making recommendations.

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

- [Contraceptive services for under 25s](#) (March 2014) NICE guideline PH51
- [Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management](#) (April 2019) NICE guideline NG126
- [Abortion care](#) (January 2021) NICE quality standard 199

6 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 March 2025.

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

The update will be developed using the methods and processes in developing NICE guidelines: the manual, including the [interim principles for methods and processes for supporting digital living guideline recommendations](#). Our website has information about [how NICE guidelines are developed](#).

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