Communication and support

• What are the specific information and support needs of patients with myeloma and their families and carers?

Laboratory investigations

Laboratory investigations for people with suspected myeloma

What is the optimal laboratory testing strategy for suspected myeloma?

Laboratory investigations to provide prognostic information

• Can investigations done at the diagnosis of myeloma, including trephine biopsy, immunophenotyping and cytogenetic and molecular genetic tests accurately predict treatment outcomes (for example, can they identify patients with a poor prognosis for whom an alternative treatment approach may be preferable)?

Imaging investigations

Imaging for people with suspected myeloma

What is the optimal imaging strategy for patients with suspected myeloma?

Imaging for people with newly diagnosed myeloma

 What is the most effective imaging to guide treatment decisions in patients with newly diagnosed myeloma?

Smouldering myeloma

• What are the most effective primary management strategies (including observation) for patients with asymptomatic myeloma?

Service Organisation

 What is the optimal configuration of local and regional haematology services for management of myeloma (including access to specialised radiological imaging, radiotherapy services, the management of renal disease, spinal disease and bone disease, clinical trials and supportive & palliative care)?

Managing newly diagnosed myeloma

First-line treatment

First autologous stem cell transplantation

 Which patients with newly diagnosed myeloma should be considered for autologous stem cell transplantation?

Allogeneic stem cell transplantation

• Which patients with myeloma should be considered for allogeneic stem cell transplantation?

Primary plasma cell leukaemia

• What are the most effective treatments for patients with primary plasma cell leukaemia?

Managing acute renal disease due to myeloma

• What is the optimal management of acute renal disease in patients with myeloma?

Preventing and managing bone disease

Preventing bone disease

• What is the most effective method of preventing bone disease in patients with myeloma?

Managing non-spinal bone disease

• What are the most effective treatments (other than chemotherapy) for non-spinal bone disease in patients with myeloma (including radiotherapy and surgical intervention)?

Managing spinal bone disease

• Excluding chemotherapy, which treatments are effective for spinal bone disease in patients with myeloma, and in which circumstances and order should they be offered?

Preventing and managing complications

Preventing infection

• What is the most effective prophylactic strategy for infection in patients with myeloma (including immunoglobulin, antibiotics, growth factors and vaccinations)?

Managing peripheral neuropathy

• What is the most effective way to manage neuropathy in patients with myeloma (excluding pharmacological management of neuropathic pain)?

Preventing thrombosis

• What is the most effective method for prevention of thrombosis in patients with myeloma?

Managing fatigue

• Which interventions are most effective in reducing fatigue in patients having treatment for myeloma?

Monitoring

• What is the optimal follow-up protocol for patients with myeloma (including duration, frequency, investigations and onward referral)?

Managing relapsed myeloma

Second autologous stem cell transplant

• In which patients with relapsed or refractory myeloma is a second autologous stem cell transplant more effective than other therapy?