

Date and Time: 16th December – 10.30 to 17.15

Minutes: Confirmed

Guideline Development Group 2: Spondyloarthritis

Place: Red Rooms, City Tower, Manchester

Present: Gary McVeigh (Chair) (GM)
Carol McCrum (CM)
Claire Strudwicke (CS)
David Chandler (DC)
Jon Packham (JP)
Tina Hawkins (TH)
Issak Bhojani (IB)
Jon Packham (JP) (Day 2 only)
Debbie Cook (DCo)

Apologies: Amanda Isdale (AM)
Louise Warburton (LW)

In attendance:

NICE Staff: Margaret Derry (MD) Kate McAllister (KM)	Hugh McGuire (HM) Louise Shires (LS) Jemma Deane (JD)	Apologies: Gabriel Rogers (GR)
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Observers:
Steve Sharp – Technical Analyst, NICE Clinical Guidelines Team

Notes: 16th December 2014

1. Introductions, matters arising and declarations of interest

GM welcomed the group, explaining the objectives for the day. Apologies were noted and the minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

GM reiterated to the group that, whilst developing the guideline, members should not commit themselves to any new speaking requests or activities that could create a conflict.

No new declarations of interest were declared.

GM asked the group to ensure all new declarations of interest are sent well in advance of meetings to MD.

2. Switching and sequencing update

HM updated the group on the preliminary evidence findings for anti-TNF biologics for ankylosing spondyloarthritis. A multiple technology appraisal (MTA) for these drugs is being conducted by the Centre for Health Technology Evaluation within NICE. It was confirmed that two GDG members would attend the first MTA committee meeting in February to contribute to discussions on switching and sequencing of biologics. The group highlighted the importance of considering comorbidities when selecting a treatment. This will be reflected to the NICE Technology Appraisals Team.

3. RQ15

KM presented the clinical reviews for the review question: *What is the effectiveness of hydrotherapy compared with standard care for managing spondyloarthritis?*

KM went through the review protocol, search strategies and included evidence used to inform these questions. The GDG discussed the evidence available and drafted recommendations.

4. Review protocols

KM talked the group through a number of review protocols. The group discussed these in turn to help finalise the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the population, intervention, comparison and outcomes.

5. RQ19

KM presented the clinical reviews for the review question: *What is the effectiveness of physical aids (for example, braces) compared with standard care for managing spondyloarthritis?*

KM went through the review protocol, search strategies and included evidence used to inform these questions. The GDG discussed the evidence available, suggested some further studies that could be considered and drafted recommendations.

6. Review protocols

KM continued talking the group through a number of review protocols. The group discussed these in turn to help finalise the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the population, intervention, comparison and outcomes.

7. Summary of the day

GM thanked the group for their contributions and confirmed the next meeting will be held in the NICE Manchester offices on 10th February.