

## Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (update)

**Appendix 1: Cost-effectiveness analysis: What is the cost effectiveness of parent training compared to no treatment for children with ADHD?**

*NICE guideline CG72*

*Economic analysis report*

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# 1 **Cost-effectiveness analysis: What is the cost effectiveness of parent training compared to no treatment for children with ADHD?**

## 5 **1.1 Introduction**

6 The objective of this model is to assess the cost effectiveness of parent training for children  
7 with ADHD. In its most pure form, parent training aims to teach the parents of children with  
8 ADHD behavioural techniques to encourage the development of coping strategies for  
9 managing the behavioural disturbance of ADHD.

10 Other components that could be part of the training include; the child also being present or  
11 attending some behavioural training themselves, or the child's teacher being involved to  
12 allow the techniques to be applied during school.

13 A model on parent training compared to no treatment was constructed for the previous  
14 ADHD guideline, therefore this model can be considered an update. Being updated is; the  
15 model structure, the treatment effects, the utility values, and the costs and resource  
16 components involved in providing the intervention.

## 17 **1.2 Methods**

### 18 **1.2.1 Model overview**

#### 19 **1.2.1.1 Comparators**

20 Being compared is parent training compared to no treatment. No treatment implies no parent  
21 training is being offered to the control group. However, in all of the studies included for  
22 treatment effect, a proportion of the children are on another current treatment or on  
23 'treatment as usual', which most often is medication but could also be a number of other  
24 interventions. Trials with a completely drug naïve population were not available. Therefore  
25 the baseline response is assumed to be the underlying response rate of a general  
26 population, whereby some children are on treatment and some children are not.

27 Ideally we would have liked to compare parent training with no parent training in a drug naïve  
28 population to be able to answer the question of whether parent training is cost effective as a  
29 first line intervention, but this was not possible due to lack of data.

30 Due to heterogeneity in the studies, a number of base case scenarios have been  
31 undertaken, most of which model the treatment effect from an individual study at a time. For  
32 this reason, the intervention can vary in terms of the number of sessions, the length of  
33 sessions, and who the intervention is targeted at (parents only, parents and children, parents  
34 and children and teachers). With resources involved naturally being higher for interventions  
35 that involve separate sessions for different audiences.

#### 36 **1.2.1.2 Population**

37 The population is children with ADHD, ranging from age 5 to 14.

1 **1.2.1.3 Time horizon, perspective, discount rates used**

2 The time horizon is 12 months, as little is known about the long term impact of treatment and  
3 progression of ADHD. Therefore no discounting is necessary.

4 The perspective is that of the NHS and personal social services.

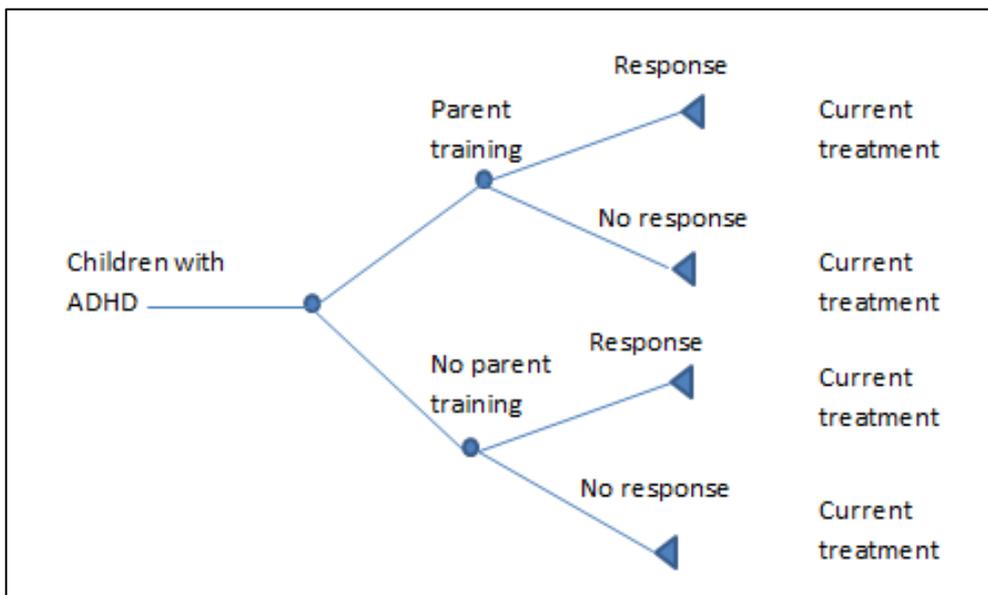
5

6 **1.2.2 Approach to modelling**

7 The model is a decision tree model, incorporating the cost of the intervention, quality of life,  
8 and the treatment effect. The treatment effect is a dichotomous outcome of the proportion of  
9 children responding to treatment in the intervention and no treatment arms. It was necessary  
10 to use dichotomous outcomes because this was the only way to link to quality of life  
11 outcomes, which from the current literature base can only be applied to responders or non-  
12 responders.

13 **1.2.2.1 Model structure**

14 **Figure 1: Model structure**



15

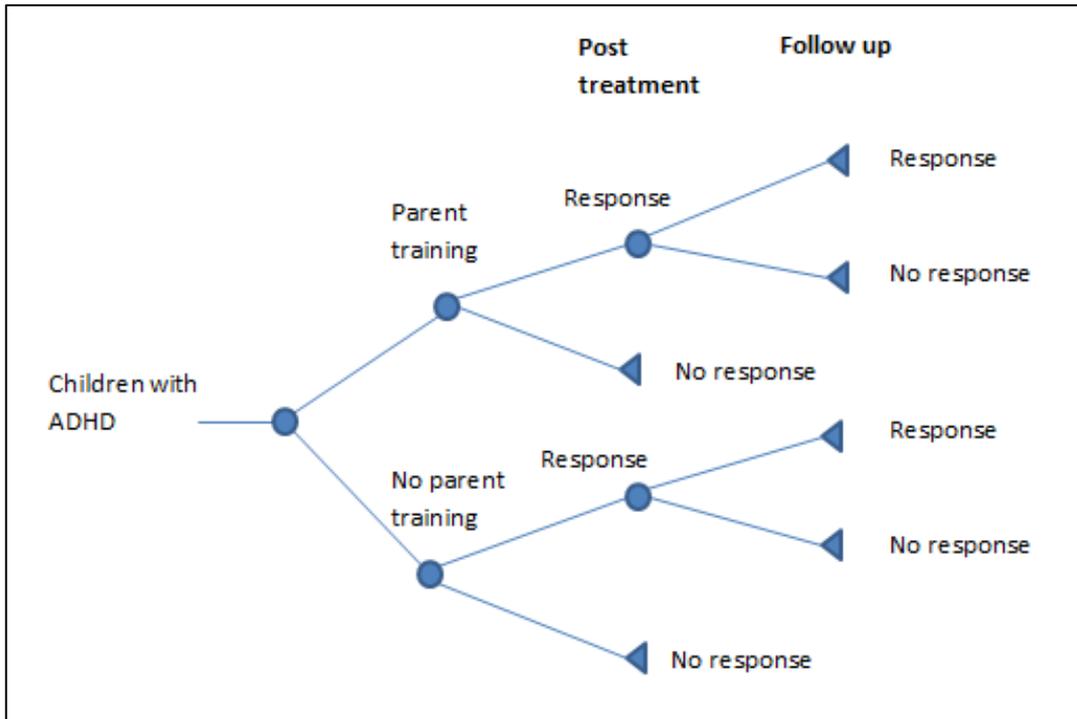
16 In the previous guideline model, there were also some booster sessions for responders,  
17 however the committee felt that this would not be a necessary part of the structure because  
18 firstly; if anything it should be non-responders that have the booster sessions, and secondly  
19 the booster sessions were not considered to be a routine part of how parent training was  
20 offered in the NHS.

21 There have been no assumptions made about any treatments that patients might go on to  
22 following non-response to parent training. Assuming that parent training may be near to the  
23 beginning of the treatment pathway, it is probably reasonable to assume that drugs may be  
24 tried after a behavioural therapy has failed. However as there is a baseline assumed in the  
25 comparator arm that could consist of a number of treatments, adding further treatments into  
26 the model after parent training means the intervention would become whether parent training  
27 should be first line or not. Ideally a model for ADHD would compare all treatment options  
28 individually and in sequences to identify what the most cost effective treatment pathway as a  
29 whole might be, but data is not available to be able to do this. So the purpose of this model is  
30 to see if the addition of parent training to what might be considered current practice (as some

1 of the children in the trials are on other treatments) is cost effective, without muddying this  
 2 with further lines of treatment.

3 It is also important to note that in order to utilise various data sources on treatment effect, but  
 4 not being able to combine them all because of heterogeneity, that in one analysis in  
 5 particular as part of the base case the structure is slightly different because if there were  
 6 multiple timepoints of data recorded then the structure of the decision tree becomes that of  
 7 Figure 2, where response at later points in time have been treated independently of response  
 8 post treatment.

9 **Figure 2: Model structure if include multiple timepoints of data**



10

11 **1.2.2.2 Uncertainty**

12 The model was built probabilistically to take account of the uncertainty around input  
 13 parameter point estimates. A probability distribution was defined for certain input parameters.  
 14 When the model was run, a value for each input was randomly selected simultaneously from  
 15 its respective probability distribution; mean QALYs were calculated using these values, (but  
 16 not mean costs as these were averages from national sources and therefore it wasn't  
 17 necessary to subject them to probabilistic sensitivity analysis). The model was run repeatedly  
 18 – 10,000 times for the base case scenarios – and results were summarised.

19 The way in which distributions are defined reflects the nature of the data, so for example  
 20 utilities were given a beta distribution, which is bounded by 0 and 1, reflecting that a quality  
 21 of life weighting will not be outside this range. All of the variables that were probabilistic in the  
 22 model and their distributional parameters are detailed in Table 1 and in the relevant input  
 23 summary tables in Section 1.2.3.1. Probability distributions in the analysis were  
 24 parameterised using error estimates from data sources, or assumptions.

25 **Table 1: Description of the type and properties of distributions used in the**  
 26 **probabilistic sensitivity analysis**

Parameter	Type of distribution	Properties of distribution
-----------	----------------------	----------------------------

Parameter	Type of distribution	Properties of distribution
Baseline risk	Beta	Bounded between 0 and 1. Derived from mean of a domain or total quality of life score and it's the sample size, using the method of moments. Alpha and Beta values were calculated as follows: Alpha = meanxN Beta = N-Alpha
Treatment group risk	Lognormal	Lognormal Bounded at 0.  Derived from log (of the RR) and standard error. $\mu = \ln(\text{RR})$ $\text{SD}(\mu) = (\ln[\text{UpperCI}] - \ln[\text{lowerCI}])/1.96*2$
Utility	Beta (b)	Bounded between 0 and 1. Derived from mean of a domain or total quality of life score and it's the sample size, using the method of moments. Alpha and Beta values were calculated as follows: Alpha = meanxN Beta = N-Alpha
Incremental utility	Gamma	Gamma distribution: Bounded at 0, positively skewed. Derived from mean and its standard error (a). Alpha and Beta values were calculated as follows: Alpha = (mean/SE) <sup>2</sup> Beta = SE <sup>2</sup> /Mean

1 (a) The standard error was derived for this from the p-value for the difference between responders and non-  
 2 responders, the source of this method can be found here:  
 3 [http://handbook.cochrane.org/chapter\\_7/7\\_7\\_3\\_3\\_obtaining\\_standard\\_deviations\\_from\\_standard\\_errors.htm](http://handbook.cochrane.org/chapter_7/7_7_3_3_obtaining_standard_deviations_from_standard_errors.htm)  
 4 (b) Responder utility was incorporated into the probabilistic analysis using a beta distribution. This is bounded by  
 5 0 and 1 – although utility can technically go below 0 the values being used here are far from 0 and so this was  
 6 considered reasonable. This was parameterised using the reported n number from the study group. While  
 7 technically this approach is for dichotomous data given that no estimate of variability was reported in the study  
 8 the only other approach would be to make an assumption about variability. Using the n number to  
 9 parameterise a beta distribution will at least reflect that variability will be lower when the study population is  
 10 higher and so was considered preferable to assuming a SE.  
 11

12 The following variables were left deterministic (that is, they were not varied in the  
 13 probabilistic analysis):

- 14 • the cost-effectiveness threshold (which was deemed to be fixed by NICE),
- 15 • the resource, including time and cost of staff, required to implement each strategy  
 16 (assumed to be fixed according to national pay scales and programme content)

17 In addition, various threshold analyses and deterministic sensitivity analyses were  
 18 undertaken to test the robustness of model assumptions. In these, one or more inputs were  
 19 changed and the analysis rerun to evaluate the impact on results and whether conclusions  
 20 on which intervention should be recommended would change.

## 21 1.2.3 Model inputs

### 22 1.2.3.1 Summary table of model inputs

23 Model inputs were based on clinical evidence identified in the systematic review undertaken  
 24 for the guideline, supplemented by additional data sources as required. Model inputs were  
 25 validated with clinical members of the Committee. A summary of the model inputs used in the  
 26 base-case (primary) analysis is provided in Table 3 below. More details about sources,

1 calculations and rationale for selection can be found in the sections following this summary  
 2 table.

3 **Table 2: Summary of base-case model inputs**

Input	Data	Source
Population	Children with ADHD (age 6-14)	Studies informing treatment effect
Time horizon	12 months	
Length of treatment	10 weeks	Average of clinical review studies and GC opinion
Baseline effect	Probability of response	Various trials from the guideline clinical review
Treatment effect	Probability of response	Various trials from the guideline clinical review

4 A variety of analyses were run as part of the base case because the studies that had the  
 5 relevant interventions and outcomes that were identified as potentially usable to inform a  
 6 model, turned out to be quite different studies that had a lot of heterogeneity, and so most of  
 7 these were analysed separately.

8 **Table 3: Overview of parameters and parameter distributions used in the model**

Parameter description	Point estimate	Probability distribution	Distribution parameters	Source
<b>Effectiveness of comparators in base case scenarios</b>				
<b>Analysis: Base case_CHACKO and HANDEN pooled</b>				
Baseline response probability	0.127	Beta	Alpha = 9 Beta = 62	Crude summation of responders divided by total number of people in baseline arms.
Parent training response probability (at 9 weeks)	0.217	Lognormal	LN mean = -1.283(a) SE = 0.45	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group from pooling Chacko 2009 <sup>3</sup> and Handen 2015 <sup>10</sup> .
<b>Analysis: Base case_CHACKO</b>				
Baseline response probability	0.075	Beta	Alpha = 3 Beta = 37	Chacko 2009 <sup>3</sup>
Parent training response probability (at 9 weeks)	0.15	Lognormal	LN mean = -1.733(a) SE = 0.676	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group from Chacko 2009 <sup>3</sup> .
<b>Analysis: Base case_HANDEN</b>				
Baseline response probability	0.194	Beta	Alpha = 6 Beta = 25	Handen 2015 <sup>10</sup>
Parent training response probability (at 9 weeks)	0.290	Lognormal	LN mean = -0.897 (a) SE = 0.604	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group from Handen 2015 <sup>10</sup>

Parameter description	Point estimate	Probability distribution	Distribution parameters	Source
<b>Analysis: Base case_PFIFFNER</b>				
Baseline response probability (post treatment)	0.66	Beta	Alpha = 20 Beta =10	Pfiffner 2007 <sup>19</sup>
Parent training response probability (post treatment – 12 weeks)	0.98	Lognormal	LN mean = 4.28 (a) SE = 1.474	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group (short term) from Pfiffner 2007 <sup>19</sup>
Baseline response probability (6 months follow up)	0.40	Beta	Alpha = 12 Beta =18	Pfiffner 2007 <sup>19</sup>
Parent training response probability (6 months follow up)	0.56	Lognormal	LN mean = 0.247 (a) SE = 0.53	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group (follow up) from Pfiffner 2007 <sup>19</sup>
<b>Analysis: Base case_OSTBERG</b>				
Baseline response probability	0.56	Beta	Alpha = 19 Beta =15	Ostberg 2012 <sup>17</sup>
Parent training response probability (at 24 weeks)	0.67	Lognormal	LN mean = 0.693 (a) SE = 0.494	Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group from Ostberg 2012 <sup>17</sup> .
<b>SA1 (using studies with behavioural outcomes)</b>				
Baseline response probability	0.22	Beta		Crude summation of responders divided by total number of people in baseline arms of Chacko 2009 <sup>3</sup> and Fabiano 2012 <sup>9</sup> .
Parent training response probability (at 9 weeks)	0.36	Lognormal		Derived from the odds ratio of the response in the treatment group versus the baseline group from pooling Chacko 2009 <sup>3</sup> and Fabiano 2012 <sup>9</sup> ..
<b>Cost (£)</b>				
Clinical psychologist (Band 8a)	£62 per hour			PSSRU 2016 <sup>6</sup>
Assistant (Band 4)	£30 per hour			PSSRU 2016 <sup>6</sup>
Consultant Psychiatrist (a)	£208 per hour of patient contact	NA		Cost components (excluding qualifications) that feed into cost per hour, and total hours worked, are from PSSRU 2016. However the 2016 cost was applied to the ratio of

Parameter description	Point estimate	Probability distribution	Distribution parameters	Source
				direct to indirect patient related activity that was last published in PSSRU 2013 (1:0.95) <sup>5</sup> , to derive the cost per hour of patient contact. As for every 1 hour spent with a patient, an additional 95% of 1 hour is spent on indirect activities to do with that patient.
<b>Utilities</b>				
Responder utility	0.83	Beta	Alpha = 489.7 Beta = 100.3	Van Der Kolk 2014 <sup>23</sup>
Non-responder utility	0.74	Beta	Alpha = 436.6 Beta = 153.4	Van Der Kolk 2014 <sup>23</sup>
Utility gain from responder over non-responder	0.09	Gamma	Alpha = 10.94 Beta = 0.008	Difference between responder and non-responder utility

(a) Log odds risk in the treatment group.

1  
2

### 3 1.2.3.2 Initial cohort settings

4 The intervention is parent training which consists of a certain number of sessions per week  
 5 and can involve training for only parents or for teachers and children as well (the exact  
 6 resource use involved in the interventions is dependent on the base case scenario). The  
 7 intervention is provided by a clinical psychologist, and an assistant. It is a group therapy with  
 8 10 sets of parents/families per group.

9 The quality of life of responders is assumed to increase linearly over the treatment period to  
 10 reach the quality of life of a responder from that of a non-responder, in order to capture that  
 11 the intervention is likely to have an effect over time rather than an immediate effect.  
 12 Following the end of the intervention, the utility of responders is assumed to remain static  
 13 (remain responding).

### 14 1.2.3.3 Baseline event rates

15 Baseline event rates in the model vary depending on which analyses from the base case  
 16 scenarios are being run. See Table 3 for more detail on the inputs used for each analysis.  
 17 This is because attempting to pool them identified a lot of heterogeneity because of  
 18 differences between the studies. More on this is explained in the next section below on  
 19 relative treatment effects.

20 The baselines are interpreted to be the underlying population response rates in the general  
 21 population in which some patients would be on drugs/some kind of current care. Therefore in  
 22 each analysis the response rate is assumed to be present from the beginning of the analysis,  
 23 and does not increase linearly over time as the intervention response does. Conversely it is  
 24 also not assumed to decrease - where to no information was available on this.

25 One particular study (Pfiffner 2007)<sup>19</sup> had data from two timepoints available. This means it  
 26 also had effectiveness data for the baseline arm for two timepoints. Rather than use only the  
 27 baseline of the earlier timepoint and assume this was constant, the baseline from the follow

1 up timeframe was also used because the response probability at follow up was lower than at  
2 post treatment, and therefore it seemed reasonable that there may well be some  
3 deterioration over time, perhaps from children getting used to the baseline treatments and  
4 them being less effective over time.

5 In all the other studies where only the post treatment outcome was reported, then as  
6 mentioned above the baseline response rate is assumed to be constant. If the population in  
7 the studies were an entirely newly diagnosed population, then it would be reasonable to  
8 assume their response level could increase over time because of the provision of information  
9 about the condition and how to manage it. But as we know this is not the case because some  
10 are already on other treatments, the assumption of a baseline response probability that  
11 remains stable was felt to be more appropriate.

#### 12 1.2.3.4 Relative treatment effects

13 Data were used from the clinical review that reported dichotomous outcomes, as this remains  
14 the only way to link to quality of life values. The clinical review for the guideline only extracted  
15 continuous outcomes (unless no continuous outcomes were reported in the study in which  
16 case dichotomous outcomes were extracted) because the committee felt that continuous  
17 outcomes were most helpful to their decision making. Therefore studies with the relevant  
18 intervention were identified from the clinical review and assessed for dichotomous outcomes  
19 by the health economist, and these were extracted.

20 For the base case analysis, 8 studies met the inclusion criteria of assessing the relevant  
21 intervention (parent training but this may also include additional components about the child  
22 and/or teacher), and also reporting dichotomous outcomes. 2 studies were excluded from the  
23 model even though they reported dichotomous outcomes because one was a mostly  
24 inattentive subtype population and was felt to be difficult to generalise from (Pfiffner 2014)<sup>18</sup>,  
25 and the other had an intervention felt to be more psycho-education rather than parent  
26 training (Daley 2013)<sup>8</sup>. Information on the remaining 6 studies can be seen below in Table 4.

27 After discussion with the committee, it became apparent that some studies are reporting  
28 dichotomous outcomes of response based on criteria of behavioural scales rather than  
29 ADHD symptom scales. The committee felt that behaviour is an important aspect of the  
30 condition for which the outcomes should be treated as separate to the ADHD total symptoms  
31 outcomes. This led to some studies being separated from the overall 6 and the response to  
32 treatment based on behavioural scales would be included in a sensitivity analysis.

33 Three studies were identified as having total symptoms outcomes at a similar timeframe (9-  
34 12 weeks). Attempting to pool these studies identified a large amount of heterogeneity (I<sup>2</sup>  
35 53%), and it could be seen from the data from the studies that they were very different, as  
36 Pfiffner for example had a baseline risk and treatment risk that was much higher than that of  
37 the other studies. This heterogeneity suggested that it wasn't a good idea to pool these  
38 studies together as it would give a large amount of uncertainty that when propagated in the  
39 model through the PSA would lead to a large variation in the results. It was therefore decided  
40 to keep the studies separate and model each of them separately.

41 The same could also be said of the studies that were informing the behavioural outcomes  
42 sensitivity analysis, as again there was one particular outlier there (Hoath<sup>11</sup>) that had a much  
43 higher odds ratio than the others included in the pooling for that outcome. It was decided that  
44 as that was a particularly small study, of only 22 children in total, that it would be excluded  
45 from the analysis entirely as it was adding little to the meta-analysis and only acting to  
46 increase uncertainty (this is still included in Table 4 for information). Therefore 5 studies were  
47 included in the model in total in various analyses, with studies only being pooled where  
48 heterogeneity was small.

49 There are a number of reasons as to why there are differences between the studies that may  
50 be causing heterogeneity. Some of these are explored below;

- 1       • The proportion of children on medication varies in each study, reflecting that there is a  
2 mixed population that effectiveness in the model is being based on, ranging from Pfiffner  
3 2007 in which a very small number of children were on medication (as well as this study  
4 being mostly inattentive subtype) to other studies where a much higher proportion were on  
5 medication. This leads to uncertainty about how effective the intervention might be in a  
6 drug naïve population, as if children are already on medication then perhaps they are less  
7 likely to benefit from the parent training. But also by having dissimilar numbers of people  
8 on concurrent treatment in the two arms of a trial can impact the relative effectiveness of  
9 the intervention and in turn the model results.
- 10       • The final column of Table 4 shows the type of intervention that was being provided in  
11 terms of who the training was being offered to. So some studies were more intensive than  
12 others in terms of providing training to the child and/or teacher as well as the parent(s), all  
13 with the aim of improving the outcomes of the child.
- 14       • Another difference between the studies and a concern the committee had about the data  
15 was the dichotomous outcomes that were being measured and what they were actually  
16 measuring. The committee thought it important that dichotomous outcomes that measured  
17 total ADHD symptoms were used rather than outcomes on subscales (such as  
18 hyperactivity or inattentiveness), as trying to combine these to work out total scores  
19 ourselves post analysis would come with additional assumptions and wouldn't be  
20 methodologically sound. Following this process of extracting only total symptom outcomes  
21 still leaves us with different studies using different scales/measures. For example; the  
22 CGI-I (Clinical Global Impressions – Improvement scale) is a 7 point scale measuring  
23 improvement (it is a relative scale), however improvement could mean improvement in  
24 symptoms or improvement in behaviour/function and is therefore capturing more than just  
25 improvement in symptoms. The SNAP-IV scale (Swanson, Nolan, and Pelham IV) is an  
26 18 item scale where 9 items measure hyperactivity-impulsivity symptoms and 9 items  
27 measure inattentiveness and is therefore more symptom focused than the CGI-I. Similarly  
28 the ADHD RS (ADHD rating Scale) is an 18 item rating scale that reflects the DSM-IV  
29 criteria (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) and is validated tool for  
30 measuring ADHD symptoms of hyperactivity/impulsivity and inattentiveness. The  
31 Disruptive Behaviour Disorder rating scale is a 45 question screening measure which is  
32 designed to identify symptoms of ADHD, oppositional defiant disorder, or conduct  
33 disorder. This could imply that it has questions that are wider than the core symptoms of  
34 ADHD as it also captures symptoms of behavioural disorders.

35       The studies were also reporting different time points; post treatment outcomes from the  
36 studies (ranging from 9-12 weeks depending on the length of the treatment in the study), and  
37 also follow up outcomes (which were reported as 3 months following the end of the  
38 intervention).

39       Therefore the base case consists of the following analyses based on the studies;

- 40       • Base case\_CHACKO and HANDEN pooled (9 week intervention)
- 41           ○ *Chacko 2009* (Disruptive Behaviour Disorders (DBD) rating scale (ADHD symptoms),  
42           less than or equal to 1)
- 43           ○ *Handen 2015* ( $\geq 30\%$  decrease on the SNAP and CGI-I $\leq 2$ )
- 44       • Base case\_CHACKO (9 week intervention)
- 45           ○ *Chacko 2009* (Disruptive Behaviour Disorders (DBD) rating scale (ADHD symptoms),  
46           less than or equal to 1)
- 47       • Base case\_HANDEN (9 week intervention)
- 48           ○ *Handen 2015* ( $\geq 30\%$  decrease on the SNAP and CGI-I $\leq 2$ )
- 49       • Base case\_PFIFFNER (12 week intervention, and 3 month follow up after treatment  
50       ended)

- 1       ○ *Pfiffner 2007* (CGI-I, based on a description of proportion 'at least slightly improved' in  
2       intervention group and 'unchanged or worse' in control group. Slightly improved has  
3       been interpreted as  $\leq 3$  on the CGI-I, and unchanged or worse as  $>3$ ).
- 4       ● Base case\_ OSTBERG (10 week intervention but outcomes reported at 3 month follow up  
5       after treatment ended = outcomes reported at around 24 weeks)
- 6       ○ *Ostberg 2012* (numbers of children who did not meet the criteria for diagnosis on the  
7       ADHD-RS)

8       The Chacko and Handen studies were pooled because a meta-analysis of the two did not  
9       reveal any heterogeneity (see forest plots in section 1.5).

10      Note that although Pfiffner and Ostberg both had similar follow up timeframes, these studies  
11      were not pooled together because Pfiffner was felt to be different to the other studies.  
12      Although it had similar follow up results to that of ostberg and so wouldn't have changed the  
13      results of the Ostberg analysis very much.

14      The sensitivity analysis using studies that report behavioural outcomes rather than total  
15      symptoms outcomes is based on a pooling of Chacko 2009 and Fabiano 2012. As mentioned  
16      above the Hoath study was excluded because it was adding heterogeneity and it was also a  
17      very small study. The remaining two studies didn't have as much heterogeneity (12 of 0%)  
18      and so it was felt acceptable to pool them. one was a 9 week study and one an 8 week study  
19      but outcomes in that analysis were assumed to be at 9 weeks. See section 1.5 for details on  
20      heterogeneity for studies that were pooled.

21      All the studies are looking at group training, however Pfiffner which has additional  
22      components has some individual aspects also. See Table 4 below for study details.

23      Note also that the probability of responding from each study has been included on an  
24      intention-to-treat basis. This is particularly relevant for the longer term studies because the  
25      denominator from the proportion of responders (if a percentage is reported) or the number of  
26      children at follow up (if raw numbers are reported) are based on the follow up population  
27      which is less than the initial population that was recruited for the study as some people are  
28      always lost to follow up. To continue applying intention to treat principles however, the  
29      denominator of the number of people who initially went into the trial has been used. This  
30      means that the response probability reported here from the longer term trials may be lower  
31      than reported in the trial because we are assuming those that were lost to follow up from  
32      baseline were non-responders. This leads to a conservative estimate of effect, but if the  
33      intervention is cost effective with these conservative assumptions then it will naturally be  
34      more cost effective with an even higher response rate.

35      The probability of response to parent training (the intervention) was derived by using the log  
36      odds ratio of the treatment group compared to the baseline group identified from the analysis  
37      (or met-analysis if studies were pooled) in revman software. This log odds ratio was then  
38      transformed into a probability through a series of formulaic steps outlined below.

39

$$\theta = \text{Log odds of } p$$

1. Calculate the log odds of the baseline risk

$$\text{Logit}(\widetilde{BR}) = \text{Ln}\left(\frac{\widetilde{BR}}{1 - \widetilde{BR}}\right)$$

(Where  $\widetilde{BR}$  denotes the simulated baseline risk.)

2. Add the log odds of the baseline risk to the log odds ratio to get the log odds ( $\theta$ ) of the risk in the treatment group:

$$\tilde{\theta} = \text{Ln}(\widetilde{OR}) + \text{Ln}\left(\frac{\widetilde{BR}}{1 - \widetilde{BR}}\right)$$

3. Transfer the log odds back to the natural scale to get the risk for the treatment group:

$$\widetilde{TR} = \frac{e^{\tilde{\theta}}}{1 + e^{\tilde{\theta}}}$$

1

2

3

If we compare the studies with dichotomous outcomes that are included in the modelling with their respective continuous outcomes that were extracted for the guideline clinical review, then outcomes that had a clinical benefit are;

5

- on the ADHD total score for Handen 2015 (parent rated, pooling of 2 studies)

6

- on the CGI-I for Handen 2015

7

- on an inattention outcome (parent and teacher rated) for Pfiffner 2007

8

- on the ADHD total score parent rated for Ostberg 2012

9

- on an inattention outcome (parent and teacher rated) for Pfiffner 2007

10

For the studies informing response on behavioural/function scales in the model sensitivity analysis, no outcomes had a clinical benefit in the continuous outcomes extracted in the clinical review (for Chacko 2009, Fabiano 2012).

11

Although for the majority of the outcomes included in the clinical review most individual subscales were not found to have a clinically important benefit, there was benefit on total ADHD symptom scales. This may be because a total ADHD scale, based on the 18 items, will have greater range (in terms of assessing more domains) and variance (of scores) to detect small differences.

14

It would however be fair to say that for the outcomes that were identified as having clinical benefit from the clinical review, these outcomes are either solely or partly based on studies used in the model for effect.

19

As we are using dichotomous outcomes, it could be argued that any increase in the number of responders in an intervention arm compared to the control group could be considered clinically effective. What is considered an adequate increase to make the intervention cost effective however will be explored in this model.

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1 Table 4: Dichotomous treatment effects extracted from clinical studies

Study	Population	Intervention	Comparator	Outcomes	Proportion using medication	Classification of intervention based on participants
<b>Base case studies</b>						
Chacko 2009	Children aged 5-12, and their single mothers	<p><b>Intervention 1:</b> Behavioural parent training (held for 2.5 hrs each week. Children participated in a concurrent social skills training programme). Group based. Assumed 9 week program as not mentioned in study. N=40</p> <p><b>Intervention 2:</b> STEPP program<sup>a</sup> (the same as 1 but also includes enhancements to try and motivate mothers more.) N=40</p> <p><b>Intervention 3:</b> Behavioural parent training + STEPP. (For the purposes of analysis this group combined the other two, and was not actually an intervention in the trial.)</p>	Waitlist control N=40	<p>Disruptive Behaviour Disorders (DBD) rating scale (ADHD symptoms), less than or equal to 1.</p> <p><b>Intervention 1:</b> 0.1</p> <p><b>Intervention 2:</b> 0.2</p> <p><b>Intervention 3:</b> 0.15</p> <p><b>Comparator:</b> 0.075</p> <p>9 weeks</p>	<p><b>Intervention 1:</b> 35%</p> <p><b>Intervention 2:</b> 40%</p> <p><b>Intervention 3:</b> NA</p> <p><b>Waitlist control:</b> 37.5%</p> <p>For children receiving medication parents were asked to maintain the type and dose of medication for the duration of the study, and report any changes in medication.</p>	Parent AND child training.
Handen 2015	Children aged 5-14	Parent training (9 weekly individual meetings of 60-90 minutes). N=31	Placebo N=31	<p>&gt;=30% decrease on the SNAP and CGI-I&lt;=2</p> <p><b>Intervention:</b> 0.290</p> <p><b>Comparator:</b> 0.194</p> <p>9 weeks</p>	'45.3% had received prior treatment for ADHD'. <sup>c</sup>	Parent training
Pfiffner 2007	Children aged 7-11	CLAS <sup>b</sup> . Had 3 components (group based); a) 30 min teacher meeting followed up by 4-5 30 min meetings of teacher, parent, child and therapist over 12 weeks. b)	Control (treatment as usual or waitlist)	12 weeks: CGI-I, based on a description of proportion 'at least slightly	'only two of the children participants were taking medication for ADHD	Parent AND child AND teacher training

Study	Population	Intervention	Comparator	Outcomes	Proportion using medication	Classification of intervention based on participants
	Predominantly ADHD-I subtype.	Parent training; parents attended 8-10 90 min sessions and 4-5 family sessions. c) Children attended child group at the same time parents attended parent group. After the 12 week study period, there were monthly meetings until follow up (outcomes are reported post intervention and at follow up. Follow up was around 3 months after treatment ended = around 6 months after treatment began). N=36	N=30	<p>improved' in intervention group and 'unchanged or worse' in control group. Slightly improved has been interpreted as <math>\leq 3</math> on the CGI-I, and unchanged or worse as <math>&gt;3</math>.</p> <p><b>Intervention:</b> 1 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.66</p> <p>6 months (follow up 3 months after intervention ended): CGI-I, based on a description of proportion of people "improved or much improved". This has been interpreted as a score of <math>\leq 2</math>.</p> <p><b>Intervention:</b> 0.63 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.40</p>	<p>when recruited'</p> <p>Families expected to change medication were excluded – implying can be on medication.</p>	
Ostberg 2012	Children aged 10. Only 93% diagnosed with ADHD.	Parent and teacher training (parents meet for 10 weekly 2 hr sessions, and teachers meet for eight sessions). Group based. Outcome time period is 3 months following end of intervention. N=36	Waitlist N=34	<p>numbers of children who did not meet the criteria for diagnosis on the ADHD RS</p> <p><b>Intervention:</b> 0.667 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.559</p> <p>Around 24 weeks</p>	<p><b>Intervention:</b> 86% <b>Comparator:</b> 77%</p> <p>Proportions using medication during the intervention time.</p>	Parent AND teacher training

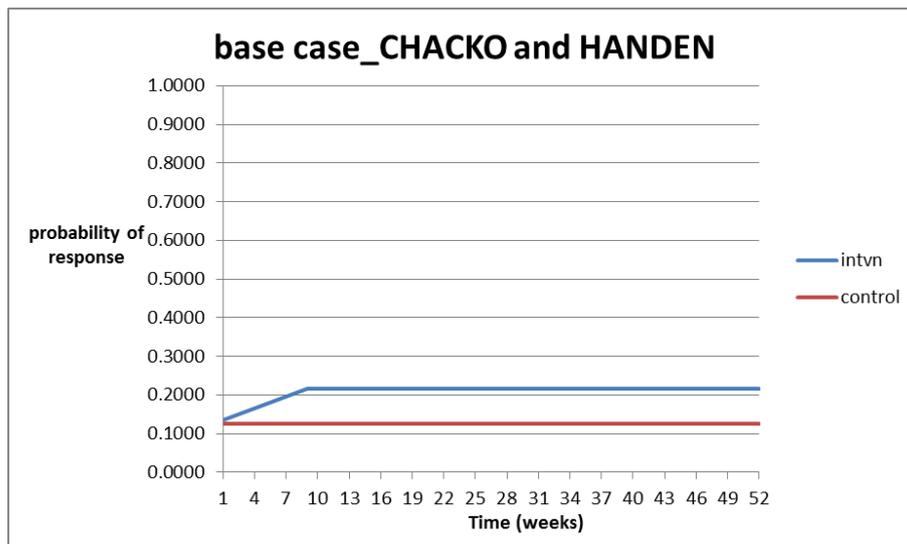
Study	Population	Intervention	Comparator	Outcomes	Proportion using medication	Classification of intervention based on participants
<b>SA: Behaviour scales</b>						
Chacko 2009	As reported earlier in this table	Interventions as reported earlier in this table	As reported earlier in this table	Impairment Rating Scale (any score less than 3) <b>Intervention 1:</b> 0.1 <b>Intervention 2:</b> 0.2 <b>Intervention 3:</b> 0.15 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.05	As reported earlier in this table	As reported earlier in this table
Fabiano 2012	Children aged 6-12 years old and their male caregivers	COACHES <sup>d</sup> program (8 week 2 hr behavioural program. First hour of each sessions was fathers learning behavioural techniques, concurrently children played soccer with counsellors, and in the second hour parents and children played soccer together.). Group based. N=28	Waitlist N=27	ECBI intensity score of below 60 <b>Intervention:</b> 0.62 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.48  8 weeks	54% in each group	Parent AND child training
Hoath 2002	Aged 5-9 years	<i>Enhanced Triple P parenting program. (Attended five 2 hr weekly group sessions. Also had weekly telephone conversation starting the week of the 5th group session). Assumed outcomes are at post intervention time frame of 12 weeks. N=10</i>	Waitlist N=11	<i>Criteria for a positive response was defined as "requiring clinically reliable change on the ECBI intensity score in addition to maintenance within the normal range or clinically reliable change on at least one parenting variable on the Parenting Scale"</i> <b>Intervention:</b> 0.77 <b>Comparator:</b> 0.18  12 weeks	<b>Intervention:</b> 80% <b>Comparator:</b> 63%	Parent training

- 1 *Note that the outcome response rates reported may not be the same as those reported in table 3, because those in this table are the crude estimates from the study, but the*
- 2 *intervention response rates in table 3 are derived by applying the odds ratio from Revman to the baseline response rate.*
- 3 *STEPP = Strategies to Enhance Positive parenting*
- 4 *(a) CLAS = Child Life and Attention Skills*
- 5 *(b) Note that there could also be a placebo effect here.*
- 6 *(c) COACHES = Coaching Our Acting-out Children: Heightening Essential Skills*
- 7

1 A graphical representation of how the effect would look over the time horizon in each base  
2 case analysis can be seen below.

3 The linear parts of the graph represent that response wouldn't occur immediately and this is  
4 applied in the model by assuming the increase in utility from non-response to response for  
5 the responders happens linearly (so the additional probability of response above baseline for  
6 the aforementioned time periods are multiplied by; utility gain\*0.5).

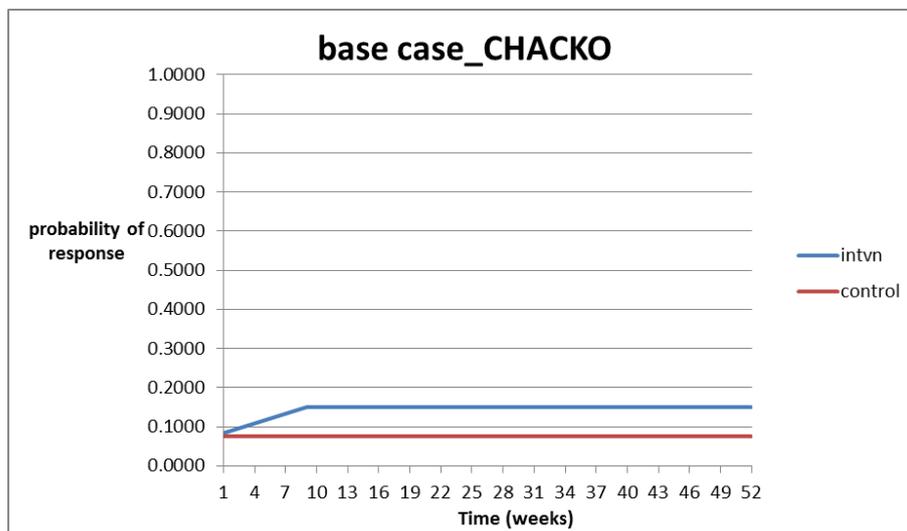
7 **Figure 3: Treatment effect over model time horizon; base case\_CHACKO and HANDEN**



8

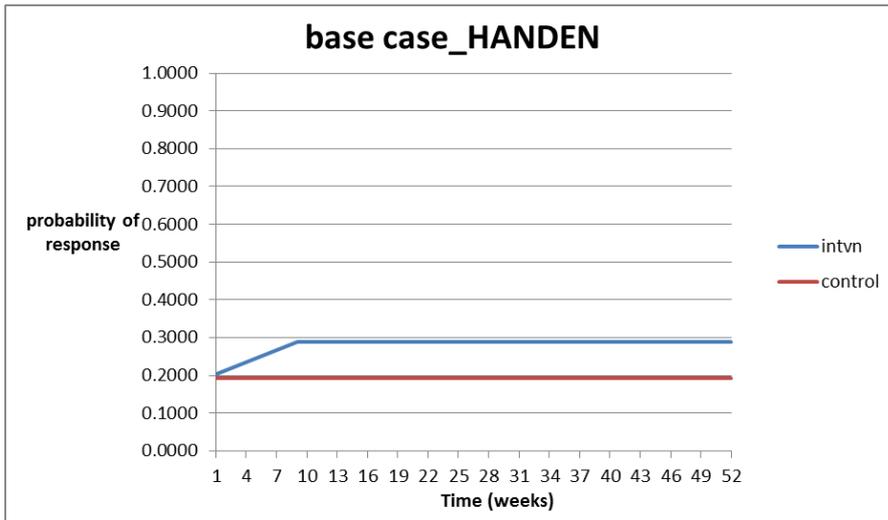
9

10 **Figure 4: Treatment effect over model time horizon; base case\_CHACKO**

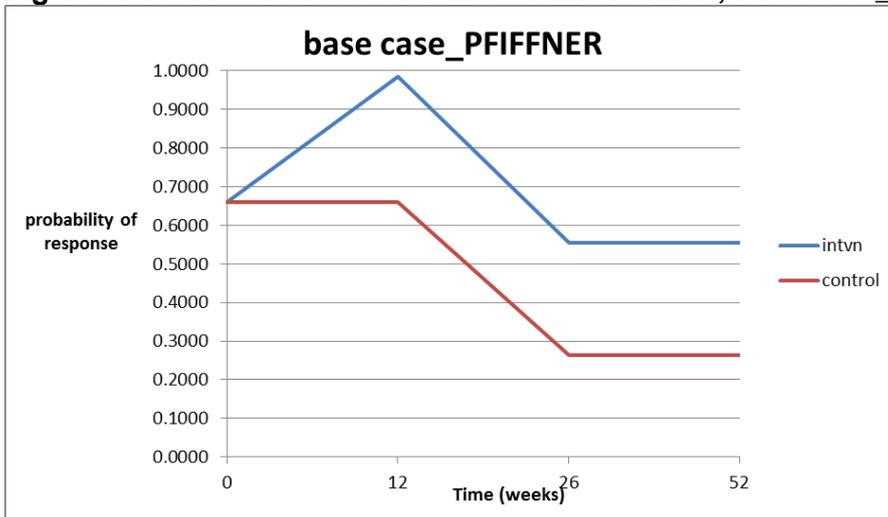


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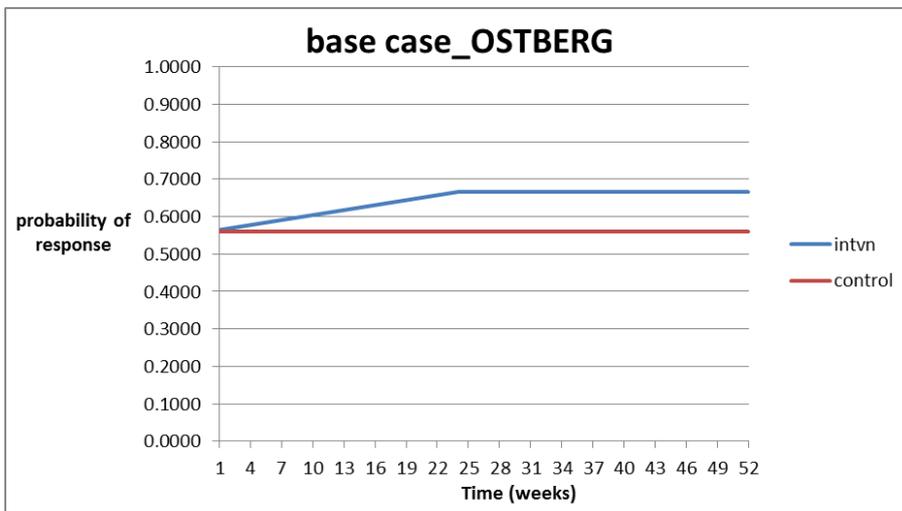
1 **Figure 5: Treatment effect over model time horizon; base case\_HANDEN**



2  
3 **Figure 6: Treatment effect over model time horizon; base case\_PFIFFNER**



4  
5 **Figure 7: Treatment effect over model time horizon; base case\_OSTBERG**



1 **1.2.3.5 Utilities**

2 A systematic literature review was conducted to identify quality of life values (this searched  
 3 for new data following that last guideline). A total of 5 potentially useful studies were  
 4 identified for children that either used a generic quality of life measure or described vignettes  
 5 and used methods to elicit preferences directly such as standard gamble or time trade-off. 4  
 6 abstracts were also identified as being potentially relevant and these can also be seen in  
 7 Table 5 below.

8 **Table 5: Utilities for children identified from systematic search**

Study	Detail	Utilities
<b>Published studies</b>		
Van der Kolk (2014a) <sup>23</sup>	<p>Conducted a survey in the Netherlands to collect data on QoL of children with ADHD that were on drug treatment and their parents. Used EQ-5D (and Kidscreen 10).</p> <p>Grouped people into responders and non-responders by coming up with descriptions for those groups prior to the study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A responder was a child that was compliant (taking the prescribed dose) and functioning fine.</li> <li>- A non-responder was not using the prescribed dose and had some problems functioning.</li> </ul> <p>Total sample of 428 responders and 190 non responders.</p>	<p>Scores reported (using UK tariff) are; QoL of children from parents:                      0.80 (entire sample),                      0.83 (responder),                      0.74 (non responder).</p> <p>The groups were also subgrouped by factors like age (8-12 and 13-18).</p>
Carroll 2009 <sup>2</sup>	<p>Utilities calculated for a wide range of health states in the paediatric population, but elicited from parents. 2 states of ADHD were also included (mild and severe ADHD).</p> <p>Elicited using the health state descriptions with Standard Gamble and Time-Trade-Off methods. States were assessed around 400 times.</p>	<p>SG mean values:                      0.94 (mild ADHD),                      0.92 (Severe ADHD)</p> <p>TTO mean values:                      0.93 (mild ADHD),                      0.90 (Severe ADHD)</p>
Lloyd 2011 <sup>15</sup> Population: 20 children ages 11-16 were used for qualitative interviews to develop the ADHD health states. These states were then rated by 100 members of the UK public.	<p>This study involved a series of steps:</p> <p>Step 1: health states were developed by interviewing young people with ADHD and their parents, and analysis of baseline clinical trial data (a methylphenidate trial was analysed and participants were grouped according to their baseline CGI-S level, and the frequency of responses to individual questions on the ADHD-RS and AIM-C helped with identifying text to include in the health state description).</p> <p>Step 2: health states were valued by 100 members of the UK public using the TTO method. States included; normal, borderline to mildly ill, moderately to markedly ill, severely ill (based on the CGI-S but reduced into fewer states).</p> <p>Step 3: Mapping the CGI-S to the CGI-I; this was based on data from 2 clinical trials. CGI-S values at follow up were estimated using linear regression of CGI-S scores on ADHD-RS at baseline (so baseline relationship between the two scores used to predict follow up relationship).</p>	<p>TTO scores for the CGI-S states;                      0.839 (normal),                      0.787 (borderline to moderately ill),                      0.578 (moderately to markedly ill),                      0.444 (severely ill)</p> <p>TTO scores by classifying responder as &gt;2 on CGI-I;                      0.82 (last visit responder),                      0.70 (last visit non-responder)                      (also reports first visit by responder or not)</p>

	The predicted CGI-S scores at follow up were then tabulated by whether or not patients had responded to treatment, where response to treatment was defined as having achieved either the top two or three scores on the CGI-I at the last visit. Mean TTO utilities for responders/non responders were calculated by a weighted average of the CGI-S score frequencies.	
Bouwmans 2014 <sup>1</sup>	A questionnaire survey was performed amongst parents for children with ADHD, this included the EQ-5D. Dutch EQ-5D proxy version used. Around 740 children were included all together and utilities were broken down by; response or not, how many comorbidities were present, and age.	Overall utility for different age groups; 0.81 (8-18) 0.79 (8-11) 0.83 (12-18)
Kandemir 2014 <sup>13</sup>	76 children aged 7-16 with ADHD who had been referred to a psychiatrist, these were matched to 59 controls. SF-36 was completed to derive <i>QoL of the parents</i> .	
<b>Abstracts</b>		
Van der Kolk 2013 <sup>20</sup>	<i>Children and adolescents aged 8-18 years and their parents. 618 questionnaires to study QoL in children and adolescents with ADHD and their parents, with a focus on compliance.</i>  <i>Used EQ-5D.</i>	Average EQ-5D: 0.80 (compliant = 0.83, non-compliant = 0.74)
Van der Kolk 2011 <sup>21</sup>	<i>Parent of a child aged 6-18 with ADHD. Comparing QoL in different states of compliance to medication, in remissions status after medication use, or being naïve to medication. Using EQ-5D (proxy version for the children).</i>  <i>873 returned questionnaires.</i>  <i>Optimal compliance: proxy EQ-5D = 0.8257, EQ-5D = 0.8331</i> <i>Suboptimal compliance: proxy EQ-5D = 0.7321, EQ-5D = 0.8050</i> <i>Medication use stopped: proxy EQ-5D = 0.7635, EQ-5D = 0.8169</i> <i>Remission after medication: proxy EQ-5D = 0.8518, EQ-5D = 0.8220</i> <i>Medication naïve: proxy EQ-5D = 0.7719, EQ-5D = 0.7899</i>	
Van der Kolk 2014b <sup>24</sup>	<i>ADHD sample (618) compared to a control group (704). Mean age 11 years.</i>  <i>EQ-5D for children and parents:</i> <i>EQ-5D children ADHD group = 0.80</i> <i>Control group = 0.96</i> <i>EQ-5D parents ADHD = 0.83</i> <i>Control group = 0.88</i>	
Hodgkins 2013 <sup>12</sup>	<i>Objective of the study was to quantify the utility gain using HUI2 following treatment with lisdex in children and adolescents with ADHD. Compared to OROS MPH. Utilities were estimated for responders and non-</i>	

<i>responders regardless of treatment.</i>	
<i>Utility for response based on CGI-I of 1 or 2 = 0.896, no response = 0.838</i>	
<i>Utility for response based on ADHD-RS of &gt;25% = 0.899, no response = 0.809</i>	
<i>Utility for response based on ADHD-RS of &gt;30% = 0.902, no response = 0.814</i>	

1 The utilities from Van der Kolk 2014a<sup>23</sup> for a responder and non-responder were utilised in  
2 the model because it used the UK EQ-5D tariff, and was a fairly large sample. The NICE  
3 guideline manual states; “The EQ-5D is the preferred measure of health-related quality of life  
4 in adults, and combines both quantity and health-related quality of life into a single measure  
5 of health gain. The value placed on health-related quality of life of people using services (or  
6 their carers) should be based on a valuation of public preferences elicited from a  
7 representative sample of the UK population.”

8 The utilities are also reported by the parents of children rather than the children themselves.  
9 It should also be noted that the utilities from the study are based on responders and non-  
10 responders to medication, and therefore may not be as applicable to behavioural therapy  
11 because the different interventions affect ADHD symptoms in different ways. There was  
12 however no literature identified that specifically looked at the utility of a population only on  
13 nonpharmacological therapies.

14 Because there has been some debate with the committee about whether a generic quality of  
15 life measure such as the EQ-5D is responsive enough to capture the quality of life with  
16 someone in ADHD and also whether it is sensitive enough to changes in the condition, some  
17 alternative ways of measuring utilities have been used in a sensitivity analysis. The guide to  
18 the methods of technology appraisal states that; “The measurement of changes in health-  
19 related quality of life should be reported directly from patients and the utility of these changes  
20 should be based on public preferences using a choice-based method. The EQ-5D is the  
21 preferred measure of health-related quality of life in adults.” There is no empiric evidence  
22 identifying that the EQ-5D is not valid in an ADHD population. A quality of life search was  
23 undertaken for the guideline and was summarised above (for dates see section B.1.2.2 of  
24 evidence report E on non-pharmacological efficacy and adverse events), and therefore if  
25 there was data identifying the lack of validity of the EQ-5D this would have been identified. A  
26 separate issue that is well recognised is that the EQ-5D has not been designed to be used in  
27 children. In the studies specific to an ADHD population, parents tend to evaluate the quality  
28 of life of the child.

29 As well as the impact on the quality of life of children, ADHD may have a wider impact on the  
30 quality of life of those around the children such as parents/families or carers. The same study  
31 used for the base case utilities (using the EQ-5D UK tariff) also derived the quality of life of  
32 the parents. This found that parents of responders had a utility of 0.83, and parents of  
33 children that were non-responders had a utility of 0.81. This is a smaller difference than the  
34 incremental utility of children, showing that there may be a small impact on parents from the  
35 responsiveness of the child. This is only one study however and doesn't mean that there isn't  
36 an association between a child's responsiveness and the quality of life of their families.

### 37 1.2.3.6 Resource use and costs

#### 38 1.2.3.6.1 Resource use of providing intervention

39 The main and only cost involved in providing the intervention is the time costs of staff. Staff  
40 costs were sourced from the PSSRU 2016<sup>6</sup>.

41 The costs required include the costs of the clinician that would be teaching the parent  
42 training course. The committee thought that on average this would be someone of Band 8a.

As well as the clinician teaching the course, the committee felt it was important to also include the cost of an assistant. The assistant would help with the administration of contacting and inviting parents, setting up the room, and would also be present during the training to assist particularly because it is a group intervention. This is a new addition that was not part of the cost in the previous model, and has increased the cost of the intervention. It was also mentioned how it may not be a paid member of staff that would be an assistant, but might be a volunteer or a student, however the cost of an assistant has been included because there is still an opportunity cost of their time and in order to make the cost effectiveness estimate conservative.

The costs of staff per hour can be found in Table 3. (£62 per hour for a psychologist and £30 per hour for an assistant)

The resources involved in providing the intervention vary depending on the base case analysis, as most analyses modelled individual studies and therefore the resource use from the study was micro-costed. In other words, each component/resource involved in providing the intervention was identified and a cost attached to it, these were then summed up to derive a total cost of providing the intervention within each analysis.

Details of the costs used for the intervention in each analysis can be found in Table 6, except for the costs of the intervention from the Pfiffner study as that had many components and costs for this are presented in Table 7.

**Table 6: Intervention costs**

Component	Hours spent (on parents)	Hours spent (on children)	Hours spent (on teachers)	Total	Description
<b>Analysis: Base case_CHACKO and HANDEN pooled (a)</b>					
Clinical Psychologist					
Set up time	9	-	-	£558	1 hour for every session would -- be spent preparing. (GC assumption)
Teaching time	18	-	-	£1,116	9 sessions of 2 hours
Assistant					
Set up time	9	-	-	£270	1 hour for every session would be spent setting up. (GC assumption)
Admin time	18	-	-	£540	The administrative tasks involved would take the same number of hours as there are sessions being provided . (GC assumption) (b)
Attending course	18	-	-	£540	Assistants also attend the course to help out where necessary. (GC assumption)
<b>Total cost</b>				= £3,024  = £302 per family	<b>Total cost of providing the intervention</b>
<b>Analysis: Base case_CHACKO (c)</b>					
Clinical Psychologist					
Set up time	9	9	-	£540	1 hour for every session would -- be spent preparing. (GC assumption)
Teaching	22.5	22.5	-	£1,350	9 sessions of 2.5 hours (for

Component	Hours spent (on parents)	Hours spent (on children)	Hours spent (on teachers)	Total	Description
time					parents and children)
<b>Assistant</b>					
Set up time	9	9	-	£540	1 hour for every session would be spent setting up. (GC assumption)
Admin time	22.5	22.5	-	£1,350	The administrative tasks involved would take the same number of hours as there are sessions being provided . (GC assumption) (b) (f)
Attending course	22.5	22.5	-	£1,350	Assistants also attend the course to help out where necessary. (GC assumption)
<b>Total cost</b>				= £7,146 <b>= £715 per family</b>	<b>Total cost of providing the intervention</b>
<b>Analysis: Base case_HANDEN (d)</b>					
<b>Clinical Psychologist</b>					
Set up time	9	-	-	£558	1 hour for every session would -- be spent preparing. (GC assumption)
Teaching time	13.5	-	-	£837	9 sessions of 1.5 hours.
<b>Assistant</b>					
Set up time	9	-	-	£270	1 hour for every session would be spent setting up. (GC assumption)
Admin time	13.5	-	-	£405	The administrative tasks involved would take the same number of hours as there are sessions being provided . (GC assumption) (b)
Attending course	13.5	-	-	£405	Assistants also attend the course to help out where necessary. (GC assumption)
<b>Total cost</b>				= £2,475 <b>= £248 per family</b>	<b>Total cost of providing the intervention</b>
<b>Analysis: Base case_OSTBERG (e)</b>					
<b>Clinical Psychologist</b>					
Set up time	10	-	8	£1,116	1 hour for every session would -- be spent preparing. (GC assumption)
Teaching time	20	-	16	£2,232	10 sessions of 2 hours for parents and 8 sessions for teachers.
<b>Assistant</b>					
Set up time	10	-	8	£540	1 hour for every session would be spent setting up. (GC assumption)
Admin time	20	-	16	£1,080	The administrative tasks involved would take the same number of hours as there are sessions being provided . (GC assumption) (b)

Component	Hours spent (on parents)	Hours spent (on children)	Hours spent (on teachers)	Total	Description
Attending course	20	-	16	£1,080	Assistants also attend the course to help out where necessary. (GC assumption)
<b>Total cost</b>				= £6,048 <b>= £605 per family</b>	<b>Total cost of providing the intervention</b>
<b>SA1 (using studies with behavioural outcomes) (c) (g)</b>					
Set up time	9	9	-	£1,116	1 hour for every session would -- be spent preparing. (GC assumption)
Teaching time	18	18	-	£2,232	9 sessions of 2 hours for parents and children.
Set up time	9	9	-	£540	1 hour for every session would be spent setting up. (GC assumption)
Admin time	18	18	-	£1,080	The administrative tasks involved would take the same number of hours as there are sessions being provided . (GC assumption) (b)
Attending course	18	18	-	£1,080	Assistants also attend the course to help out where necessary. (GC assumption)
<b>Total cost</b>				= £6,048 <b>= £605 per family</b>	<b>Total cost of providing the intervention</b>

- 1 (a) Intervention: both 9 weeks, Chacko was 2.5 hours per week and was parent and child training, and Handen  
 2 was 60-90 minutes per week and parent only. As a midpoint, assumed parent training only, with sessions of 2  
 3 hour length.  
 4 (b) of contacting parents, inviting them and arranging them to attend the course  
 5 (c) parent and child training  
 6 (d) parent only training  
 7 (e) parent and teacher training  
 8 (f) An assumption has been made that resource use would be duplicated e.g. if it is both a parent and child  
 9 training course then the assumptions about time needed to set up etc would be duplicated and there would be  
 10 no time saving. This may not necessarily be true as it may not be the case that a course that provides training  
 11 to more than one type of audience would require twice the resources like twice the admin time and twice the  
 12 set up time. So costs here can be taken as being conservative estimates.  
 13 (g) This analysis is a pooling of two studies that report behavioural outcomes. Chacko 2009 had a 9 week  
 14 intervention with a 2.5 hour session per week. Fabiano 2012 had n 8 week intervention with 2 hours per week.  
 15 To take the midpoint of the two it was assumed it was a 9 week intervention with sessions of 2 hour length.  
 16

17 **Table 7: Intervention costs – Pfiffner 2007 study**

Component	Number of meetings	Length per meetings	Psychologist		Assistant		
			Total no. of hours face to face	Total hours of prep time	Admin time	Set up time	Attending
Teacher meeting (a)	1	30 minutes	0.5	- (c)			

Component	Number of meetings	Length per meetings	Psychologist		Assistant			
			Total no. of hours face to face	Total hours of prep time	Admin time	Set up time	Attending	
Parent, teacher, and child meeting (a)	5	30 minutes	2.5	2.5 (d)				
Parent meetings	10	90 minutes	15	10 (e)		10 (g)	15	
Family sessions (a)	5	30 minutes (b)	2.5	2.5 (d)				
Child meetings	10	90 minutes	15	10 (e)		10 (g)	15	
Post treatment to follow up meetings (monthly) (a)	3	30 minutes (b)	1.5	1.5 (d)				
<b>Total hours</b>			<b>37</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>37 (f)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	
Total hours of individual components			7	6.5	7	-	-	
Total hours of group components			30	20	30	20	30	
<b>Total cost for individual components</b>			£434	£403	£210			= £1,047 per family
<b>Total cost for group components</b>			£1,860	£1,240.0	£900	£600	£900	= £5,550/10 = £550 per family
<b>Total cost</b>								<b>= £1,597 per family</b>

1 (a) Assumed to be individual

2 (b) Not state in study so assumed

3 (c) Assumed negligible

4 (d) Assumed 30 minutes per meeting

5 (e) Assumed 1 hour for every session

6 (f) Assumed to be same number of hours as there are sessions

7 (g) Only relevant for the group sessions. Assumed one hour per session

9 Note that no cost exists in the PSSRU for non-contact time cost for a psychologist, so this  
 10 has assumed to be the same as the face to face time cost.

11 Current treatment was not assigned a cost because this is applicable for both the  
 12 intervention and control and would cancel out.

### 1.1.2.3.6.2 **Costs associated with resource use**

2 Resource use associated with response or no-response over the time horizon of the model  
3 was also included because committee opinion was that non-responders would usually be  
4 seen more frequently by a psychiatrist/paediatrician than responders. As the underlying  
5 population from the studies was children who were on a mix of concurrent treatments or no  
6 treatment, rather than a population that were all on medication for example, then it wasn't felt  
7 possible to assume that there would be the same underlying resource use for both arms of  
8 the model. As if indeed all the underlying population was on medication, then they would be  
9 seen regularly by a clinician anyway, and those sessions would double up as checking on  
10 the patients progress with other treatments such as parent training, in other words there  
11 would be no duplication of resources specifically because of parent training. But as that is not  
12 the case, the GC though it was a fair assumption to conclude that patients would therefore  
13 be seen with a frequency based on their response to parent training, because they may not  
14 be seeing them at all if they are not already on medication. For that reason psychiatrists (or  
15 could also be paediatrician) visits were used to represent resource use associated with  
16 response.

17 Although this may be an over or underestimate of the actual resource use reflected based on  
18 the response levels from the trials, because those that are on medication would be seen  
19 regularly. It can also be the case that parent training may in fact reduce other resource such  
20 as reliance on medication. But as we are not certain of the impact of parent training on  
21 resource use, an assumption has been made to try and capture the fact that there could be a  
22 difference in downstream resource use between responders and non-responders.

23 Because for the base case analysis that uses the Piffner study there are two timepoints,  
24 then someone who is a responder in the shorter term may become a non-responder at the  
25 later timepoint, and so they may have a different frequency of meetings in the two time  
26 periods, and so the resource use has been split into post treatment to 6 months, and 6  
27 months to 12 months. Responders would be seen every 4 months on average, at month 4  
28 and month 8. Non-responders would be seen around twice as much according to the  
29 committee, and so it is assumed this might be at months 4,6,8 and 10. The visits start after  
30 the course of treatment has finished and so that is why they wouldn't be seen for the first few  
31 months. See table below for the costs of this resource use given the number of consultations  
32 mentioned.

33 **Table 8: Costs associated with response**

<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Frequency responders seen</b>	<b>Frequency non-responders seen</b>
Post treatment to 6 months	£208	£416
From 6 months to 12 months	£208	£416

34 In the models where outcomes are from a single timepoint, the resource use for the two  
35 periods is summed as you remain a responder or non-responder following treatment for the  
36 remaining time horizon of the model.

37 In the base case analysis using the Ostberg study, although the intervention is a 10 week  
38 intervention, the outcomes are only measured at a follow up time period of 3 months post  
39 treatment, which would be around 6 months after the intervention began. Because both  
40 responders and non-responders have a consultation at 4 months, and the difference  
41 between the resource use only really starts at month 6 onwards, then it is assumed that the  
42 same costs would be applied for responders and non-responders as in all the other base  
43 case models, as you would know at 6 months whether they responded or not.

44 There are other factors omitted from the model like the cost of treatment people might  
45 change to which has monitoring costs (if a drug) as well as the cost of the intervention, which  
46 may be different in the different arms because of the impact of parent training. Those on

1 drugs will be seen at regular intervals anyway so it may be irrelevant what impact parent  
2 training has, unless it makes them stop drugs completely, or conversely – prevents them  
3 from starting drugs in the first place. There are many factors that we are uncertain of and for  
4 that reason could not be included in the model and so assumptions had to be made.

#### 5 **1.2.4 Computations**

6 The model was constructed in Microsoft Excel 2010, and evaluated for a single individual.  
7 Cohort simulation was not necessary because of the structure and time horizon of the model.

8 The patient begins at time zero and has the intervention for a set period of time (depending  
9 on the study/ies being used for the analysis). Given the baseline and treatment response  
10 probabilities; the proportion of people that are responders to either arm are applied the  
11 responder utility linearly over the intervention timeframe to represent a slowly increasing level  
12 of benefit (through utility) from that of baseline (non-response utility) to that of a responder. In  
13 base case analyses where data from two timepoints are included, the probability of response  
14 at the later timepoint will then influence the utility gain between the two timepoints and the  
15 response probabilities that are carried forward until the end of the time horizon of the model.  
16 This level of response is then assumed to remain until the end of the model.

17 Total costs and QALYs are the sum of the costs in each arm and QALYs in each arm at the  
18 end of the model.

19 In the probabilistic analysis, only the QALYs are probabilistic because no distributions have  
20 been put around the costs, however costs will vary through the fact that response rates are  
21 varying and costs associated with response are included in the model, and so costs are also  
22 recorded for each simulation. The average cost and QALY for each comparison is taken from  
23 all the simulations, and the probabilistic ICER is calculated by dividing the incremental cost  
24 by the incremental QALY for each analysis.

#### 25 **1.2.5 Sensitivity analyses**

- 26 1. Using the outcomes from studies that measure behavioural outcomes dichotomously  
27 in the base case, rather than symptom measures.
- 28 2. Using continuous outcomes transformed into dichotomous outcomes.
- 29 3. Using data from the under 5's population from the guideline review to assess cost  
30 effectiveness in that group.

#### 31 **1.2.6 Model validation**

32 The model was developed in consultation with the Committee; model structure, inputs and  
33 results were presented to and discussed with the Committee for clinical validation and  
34 interpretation.

35 The model was systematically checked by the health economist undertaking the analysis;  
36 this included inputting null and extreme values and checking that results were plausible given  
37 inputs. The model was peer reviewed by a second experienced health economist from the  
38 National Guideline Centre; this included systematic checking of many of the model  
39 calculations.

#### 40 **1.2.7 Estimation of cost-effectiveness**

41 The widely used cost-effectiveness metric is the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER).  
42 This is calculated by dividing the difference in costs associated with 2 alternatives by the  
43 difference in QALYs. The decision rule then applied is that if the ICER falls below a given  
44 cost per QALY threshold the result is considered to be cost-effective. If both costs are lower  
45 and QALYs are higher the option is said to dominate and an ICER is not calculated.

1

$$ICER = \frac{Costs(B) - Costs(A)}{QALYs(B) - QALYs(A)}$$

Where: Costs(A) = total costs for option A; QALYs(A) = total QALYs for option A

Cost-effective if:  
 • ICER < Threshold

2 Results are also presented graphically where total costs and total QALYs for each diagnostic  
 3 strategy are shown. Comparisons not ruled out by dominance or extended dominance are  
 4 joined by a line on the graph where the slope represents the incremental cost-effectiveness  
 5 ratio.

### 6 1.2.8 Interpreting results

7 NICE’s report ‘Social value judgements: principles for the development of NICE guidance’<sup>16</sup>  
 8 sets out the principles that Committees should consider when judging whether an  
 9 intervention offers good value for money. In general, an intervention was considered to be  
 10 cost-effective if either of the following criteria applied (given that the estimate was considered  
 11 plausible):

- 12 • The intervention dominated other relevant strategies (that is, it was both less costly in  
 13 terms of resource use and more clinically effective compared with all the other relevant  
 14 alternative strategies), or
- 15 • The intervention costs less than £20,000 per quality-adjusted life-year (QALY) gained  
 16 compared with the next best strategy.

## 17 1.3 Results

### 18 1.3.1 Base case analyses

#### 19 1.3.1.1 Analysis: Base case\_CHACKO and HANDEN

20 Probabilistic base case results for this analysis can be found below in Table 9:

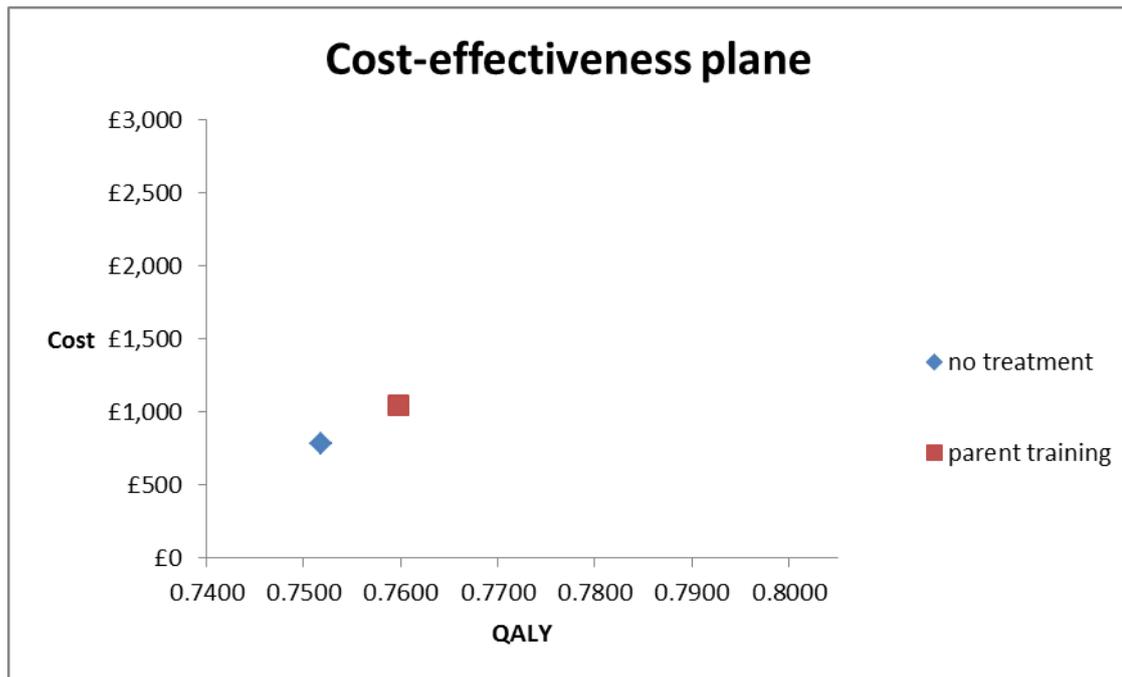
21 **Table 9: Base case results; CHACKO and HANDEN (per person)**

	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£1,041	0.7598
No parent training	£779	0.7519
Incrementals	£262	0.0079
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£33,015</b>	

22 The ICER is above the NICE cost per QALY threshold of £20,000, therefore parent training  
 23 using the two studies pooled here is not considered cost effective.

24 The cost-effectiveness plane in Figure 8 also shows us the ICER as the gradient of the line  
 25 that joins no treatment with parent training.

1 **Figure 8: Cost-effectiveness plane – base case\_CHACKO and HANDEN**



2  
 3 The model is very sensitive to the treatment effect and baseline response rate. As we have a  
 4 number of base case analyses using different effectiveness and costs, then a variety of  
 5 ICERS are possible because of the models sensitivity to the inputs. The ICER in this analysis  
 6 is above the threshold but not too much over £30,000 and this is because the cost of the  
 7 intervention used is towards the lower end of the scale of because the costs of just parent  
 8 training have been assumed, and also the difference in probability between probability of  
 9 non-response and response is about 9% which impacts incremental QALYs and is bigger  
 10 than the relative difference from some of the other studies used in the base case.

11 Given that the underlying population have a significant proportion taking medication, a  
 12 comment needs to be made on what baseline response rate from the studies would be most  
 13 similar to what would be expected in practice. This is a difficult question to answer and is  
 14 highly dependent on both how response is defined and what treatment children - those who  
 15 are on treatment - would be on.

16 A threshold analysis was undertaken on cost; keeping all else constant, the cost of the  
 17 intervention would have to decrease from £302 per person to below £186 to make the  
 18 intervention cost effective.

19 Parent training had a 23% probability of being cost effective in this analysis (at £20,000).

20 **1.3.1.2 Analysis: Base case\_CHACKO**

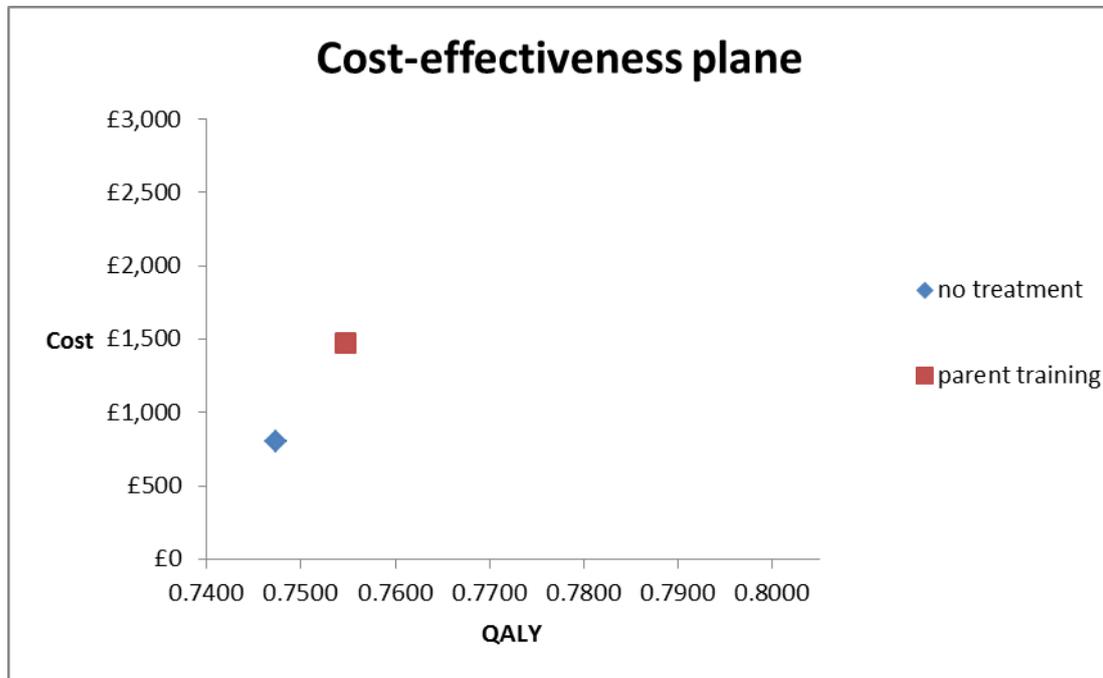
21 The probabilistic results of this analysis can be found below.

22 **Table 10: Base case results; CHACKO (per person)**

	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£1,478	0.7547
No parent training	£800	0.7474
Incrementals	£677	0.0073
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£92,531</b>	

1 In this analysis only the Chacko 2009 study was used for effect. This study was a parent and  
 2 child training intervention, therefore more resource intensive, and both the baseline and  
 3 treatment response probabilities are very low, hence why the ICER is high. Parent training  
 4 only had a probability of 3% of being cost effective in this analysis. The cost effectiveness  
 5 plane can be seen below.

6 **Figure 9: Cost-effectiveness plane – base case\_CHACKO**



7  
 8 A threshold analysis on the intervention cost showed that it would have to be below £155 to  
 9 make the intervention cost effective.

10 **1.3.1.3 Analysis: Base case\_HANDEN**

11 The probabilistic results of this analysis can be found below:

12 **Table 11: Base case results; HANDEN (per person)**

13

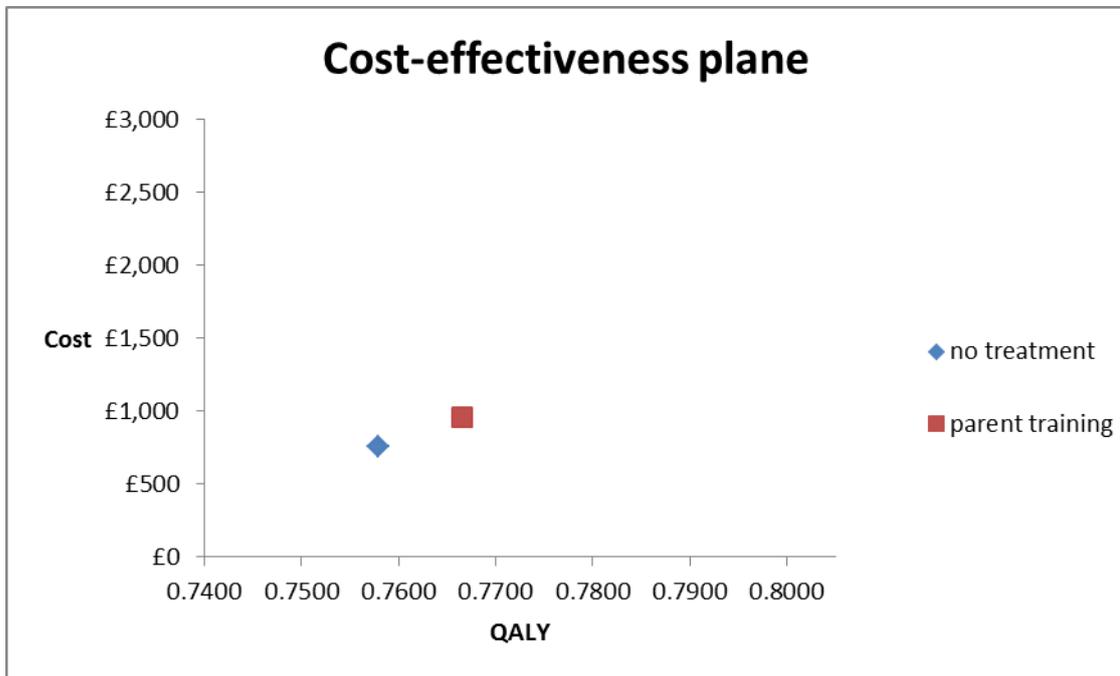
	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£955	0.7666
No parent training	£752	0.7579
Incrementals	£203	0.0087
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£23,393</b>	

14 Again we can see that the ICER has fallen significantly from the last analysis. The Handen  
 15 study was only a parent training study and has the lowest intervention costs of all the studies  
 16 used because it has 9 sessions of 1.5 hours each. The additional probability of response  
 17 from the intervention arm is around 10%. Although this isn't very much, we can see that  
 18 because the cost is low then the intervention is close to being cost effective, even if the  
 19 intervention is only slightly more effective than the comparator.

20 The cost effectiveness plane can be seen below. All the cost effectiveness planes have the  
 21 same axis points so that they can be equally compared. If we were to join the two

1 interventions on the plane below with a line then this would be a line of lower slope than the  
 2 previous cost effectiveness plane.

3 **Figure 10: Cost-effectiveness plane – base case\_HANDEN**



4  
 5 A threshold analysis on the intervention cost showed it would have to be lower than £198 to  
 6 make the intervention cost effective.

7 Parent training had a probability of being cost effective of 39% at a threshold of £20,000 in  
 8 the PSA for this analysis.

9 **1.3.1.4 Analysis: Base case\_PFIFFNER**

10 The probabilistic results of this analysis can be found below:

11 **Table 12: Base case results; PFIFFNER (per person)**

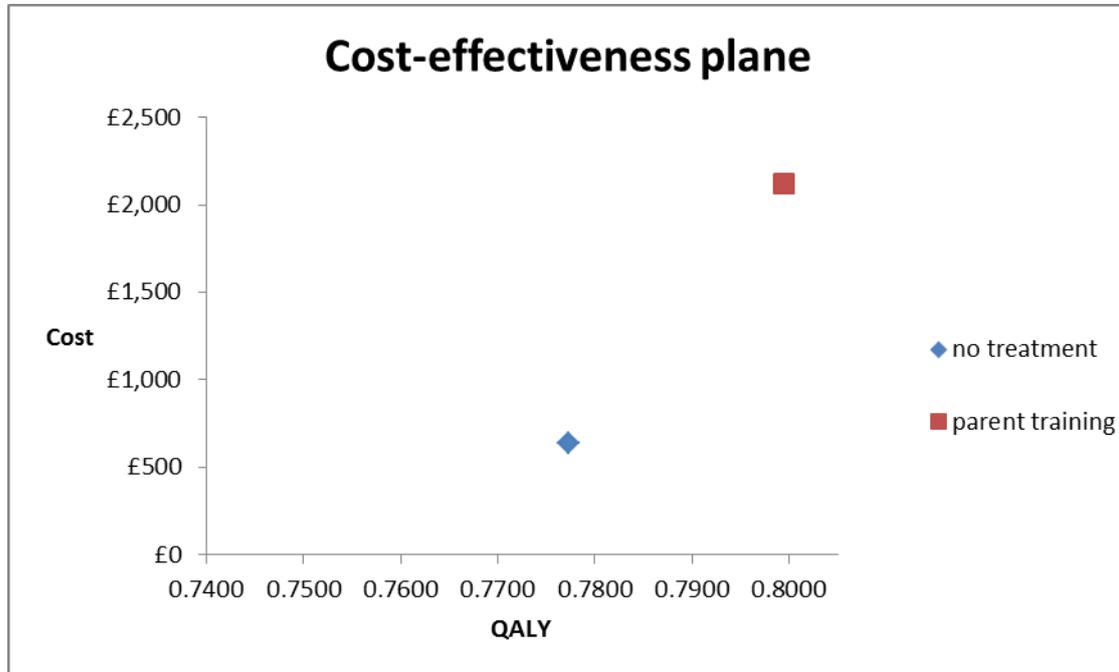
	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£2,118	0.7994
No parent training	£639	0.7773
Incrementals	£1,478	0.0221
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£66,891</b>	

12 This analysis was slightly different to the others because the Pfiffner study had two  
 13 timepoints and both were used in the analysis. Both the treatment effect and baseline effect  
 14 fell at the later timepoint. This was the most resource intensive of the studies used in the  
 15 base case analyses because it included parent and child training, and also time with the  
 16 teacher, as well as family sessions and session with the family and teacher. Some of which  
 17 were assumed to be 1:1 (if they were about the individual child) which adds to the costs as  
 18 those costs cannot all be divided by a group. Hence although the incremental QALYs are  
 19 higher than in the other analyses (because the additional response rate is higher in this study  
 20 at around 30%), the larger intervention costs are causing the ICER to increase.

1 A threshold analysis showed that the intervention cost would have to be £606 to make the  
 2 intervention cost effective.

3 The cost effectiveness plane can be seen below;

4 **Figure 11: Cost effectiveness plane – base case\_PFIFFNER**



5  
 6 The PSA found that parent training has 0% probability of being cost effective.

7 It has been assumed in this analysis that the baseline deteriorates as well as the treatment  
 8 effect. Instead it could have been assumed that the 12 week baseline effect stays at that  
 9 level until the end of the model. But as only one study was used in this analysis, the effects  
 10 were taken directly from the study. After the 26 week effect however then both the baseline  
 11 and treatment effects are assumed to remain at that level. This raises the argument however  
 12 of whether the assumptions made in the model are too strict, such as assuming the  
 13 treatment effect stays at the same level. For this to be true then patients  
 14 (parents/children/teachers) would have to keep applying the techniques learnt in the training,  
 15 which may not be true, as there is likely to be attenuation in the fidelity with which the learned  
 16 strategies are applied. Additionally, no deterioration in the baseline has been modelled  
 17 (except for the period between the two timepoints in this analysis), which again may not be  
 18 accurate because it is possible that over time people may get used to their medication. If  
 19 treatment effect was assumed to diminish over time then this would make the treatment less  
 20 cost effective. Additionally if deterioration is modelled, then relatively speaking if the  
 21 treatment effect is also assumed to diminish over time then this is likely to have little an  
 22 impact on the results compared to assuming they both stay at the same level.

23 **1.3.1.5 Analysis: Base case\_ OSTBERG**

24

25 The probabilistic results of this analysis can be found below:

26 **Table 13: Base case results; OSTBERG (per person)**

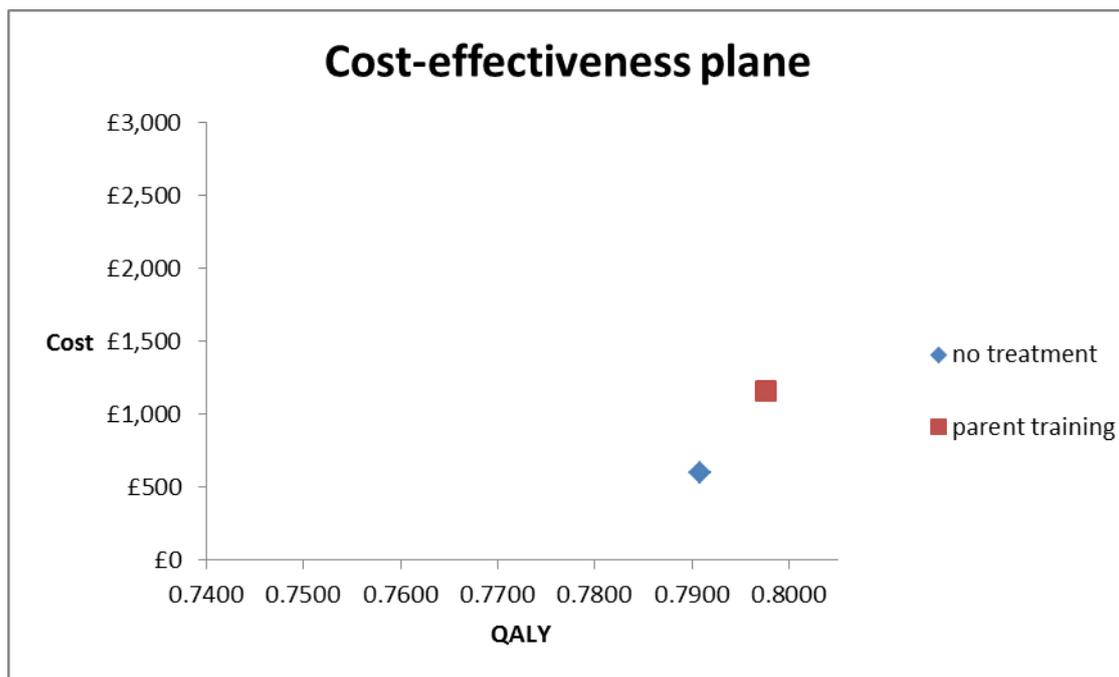
	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£1,163	0.7976
No parent training	£599	0.7908

	Total cost	Total QALY
Incrementals	£564	0.0068
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£82,915</b>	

1 The Ostberg study had a longer outcome timepoint than the other studies, at 3 months post  
 2 intervention, which was around 24 weeks. This means that the linear increase in utility from  
 3 non-response to response carries on from a longer period of time, so less utility is accrued  
 4 because the slope of the linear line is flatter (see graphs in section 1.2.3.4). The intervention  
 5 also looked at in this study was a parent and teacher intervention, which is more resource  
 6 intensive than just parent training. These two factors together lead to a higher ICER than  
 7 some of the other analyses. It can be seen from the cost effectiveness plane below that the  
 8 total QALYs are higher than in some of the previous analyses. This is because the response  
 9 probabilities from the Ostberg study were 55% (baseline) and 66%, so as they are much  
 10 higher than in some of the other studies then the total QALYs accruing are larger because  
 11 they are more responder. But relatively, the effects from the two arms compared to each  
 12 other are quite small.

13 The PSA showed that parent training has a probability of being cost effective of 2% in this  
 14 analysis.

15 **Figure 12: Cost effectiveness plane – base case\_ OSTBERG**  
 16



17  
 18 A threshold analysis on the intervention costs showed this would have to be below £195 to  
 19 make the intervention cost effective.

20 **1.3.2 Sensitivity analyses**

- 21 1. Using the outcomes from studies that measure behavioural outcomes dichotomously,  
 22 rather than symptom measures.

23

1 The results of this sensitivity analysis can be seen below.

2 **Table 14: SA1 results**

	Total cost	Total QALY
Parent training	£1,288	0.7711
Current treatment	£739	0.7601
Incrementals	£549	0.0110
<b>ICER</b>	<b>£49,944</b>	

3  
4 Two studies have been pooled together that had behavioural outcomes because they were  
5 felt to be sufficiently similar and homogenous. The relative difference between the treatment  
6 response and baseline response is around 13% which is leading to higher incremental  
7 QALYs than some of the other analyses. As the pooled studies have been assumed to be  
8 parent and child training to be conservative, then this leads to a higher cost than just parent  
9 training alone. This is why the ICER is above £20,000.

10 A threshold on costs of the intervention showed that the costs of the intervention would have  
11 to be below £276 to make the intervention cost effective, keeping all other things constant.

12 Other sensitivity analyses that have been undertaken for the other models in the guideline  
13 include using other sources for utility values such as elicited directly. However the two  
14 alternate sources that were used in those models had either the same incremental utility or a  
15 higher incremental utility, and therefore results would either be the same as in the base case  
16 or more cost effective.

17 It can also be predicted what the effect would be of making assumptions about diminishing  
18 effects of the interventions after it was finished; as this would reduce the incremental QALY  
19 and therefore increase the ICER and make the interventions less cost effective.

20  
21 2. Using continuous outcomes transformed into dichotomous outcomes.

22 Another approach that was explored in order to utilise more data on effectiveness to inform  
23 the model was the possibility of transforming continuous data to dichotomous data. There is  
24 published literature on the different methods that might be used to do this<sup>7,4</sup>.

25 Two particular methods that were being considered were; the graphical method of creating a  
26 distribution around the scale/measure that is being used to decide response, and selecting a  
27 cut off that would represent improvement or response above that cut off. The proportion of  
28 responders would then be calculated that fall into the area above the cut off. This is a method  
29 that has been employed before in NICE guidelines. The second method considered is  
30 reported in the literature and also the Cochrane handbook and is a more statistical approach  
31 which calculates the log odds ratio from the standardised mean difference. An explanation is  
32 given in Figure 13 below.

33 **Figure 13: Conversion of SMD to odds ratio**

This assumes that the continuous variable has a logistic distribution with equal standard deviations in the two intervention groups. The assumption is unlikely to hold exactly and the results must be regarded as an approximation. The log odds ratio is estimated as

$$\ln OR = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} SMD$$

(or approximately 1.81×SMD).

The resulting odds ratio can then be combined with an assumed control group risk to obtain an absolute risk reduction. These assumed control group risks refer to proportions of people who have improved by some (unspecified) amount in the continuous outcome ('responders').

1 This method was explored by extracting data from studies in the non-pharmacological clinical  
2 review that looked at parent training and that did not report dichotomous outcomes (but  
3 instead continuous outcomes).

4 The first method was ruled out because some measures do not have a validated or  
5 commonly used cut-off that we could employ. Even if there were, sometimes this is in the  
6 form of x% reduction on the scale from baseline. Such an outcome would mean that the  
7 scores of each individual would need to be known to work this out, as this isn't the same as  
8 knowing the mean of all participants before and after treatment. If individual scores were  
9 reported or if the study stated how many people met this criteria then this would already give  
10 us the dichotomous data we need. But instead it would need to be a measure where a  
11 specific cut off can be defined e.g. >6 means improvement on a scale of 1 to 10. We  
12 therefore decided to focus on the second method that would also be more statistically  
13 defensible.

14 After removing those studies that did not report total symptoms continuously (as we were  
15 also interested in total symptoms not subscales which most studies tend to report), we were  
16 left with two studies. These reported final values rather than change scores and had some  
17 problems;

- 18 • Both studies reported Connors ADHD index scores, one however had mean values that  
19 were much higher than the other (around 70 (before and after) whereas the other study  
20 was around 20 (before and after)). This seems very odd if they are using the same scale.
- 21 • One study (van den hoofdakker 2007) had final values that were higher in the intervention  
22 group. This is problematic because lower values mean less severe ADHD so lower values  
23 are better, and therefore although the overall change was bigger in the intervention group,  
24 as the study is reporting final values, then the interpretation that the intervention is more  
25 effective is not translating to SMD and therefore to odds ratios. Therefore although  
26 change values would be more useful, the study did not report these and calculating these  
27 from the scores before and after treatment would come with additional assumptions  
28 because this would be a post analysis calculation.

29 In summary; attempting to use this formulaic method of transforming continuous outcomes  
30 led to some strange results because of issues with the data as explained above, and led us  
31 to be very unconfident in the result that was being produced. After discussing this with the  
32 committee it was felt that combining this transformed odds ratio with the dichotomous data  
33 would only further increase the uncertainty in the model and further decrease the  
34 committee's confidence in the model results.

35

36 3. Using data from the under 5's population from the guideline review to assess cost  
37 effectiveness in that group.

38 The committee were also interested in seeing if the model could be applied to the under 5  
39 group to see if parent training would be cost effective in that group. This could only be

1 undertaken on the proviso that the studies included in this population group from the clinical  
2 review reported dichotomous outcomes that were needed for the model.

3 Four studies were included in the guideline clinical review for the under 5 age group. All four  
4 looked at some form of parent training. Two looked at the New Forest Parenting Programme  
5 (NFPP), one looked at the Triple P parenting programme, and one looked at parent child  
6 interaction therapy.

7 One study did not report any dichotomous outcomes (Abikoff 2015). One study reported  
8 some dichotomous outcomes but these were on the number of children that met clinical  
9 significance points on specific subscales of the Disruptive behaviour Scale (the hyperactivity  
10 component, the ODD component ), and not total ADHD symptom scores (Matos 2009). One  
11 study (Bor 2002) reports the percentage in each group that meets the reliable change index  
12 for the ECBI or the Parent Daily Report score, and that meets a 30 % reduction in observed  
13 child disruptive behaviour – both of these are behavioural outcomes rather than total ADHD  
14 symptom outcomes. The final study (Thompson 2009) reports the number of children that  
15 met a reduction in ADHD symptoms on the pre-school version of the Parental Account of  
16 Childhood Symptoms (PACS). This is the only study out of the four that reported total ADHD  
17 symptoms dichotomously. The study compared the NFPP with treatment as usual with 21  
18 and 20 children respectively. The treatment as usual group received no treatment or they  
19 were referred onto services but they were given contact information for health visitors, GP's  
20 or school nurses which they could use as they wished. This was essentially a no treatment  
21 control group. The NFPP was an 8 week programme delivered in children's homes (8 weekly  
22 visits). The analysis on dichotomous outcomes took into account the drop outs by allocating  
23 the drop outs to non-response (i.e. intention to treat analysis). Treatment success was  
24 judged against a threshold for clinical change of a decrease in PACS ADHD symptoms of  
25 five points (the authors state this is equivalent to a 0.8 standard deviation reduction in  
26 symptoms in the current study). The outcomes reported in the study are a 40% response rate  
27 in the intervention arm (8 out of 21) and 5% response rate in the control arm (1 out of 20). It  
28 is unclear whether this relates to the outcomes measured post treatment (at 9 weeks) or  
29 those measured at a follow up timeframe (17 weeks). Also as this includes those who  
30 dropped out this is a conservative estimate. More people dropped out in the control arm than  
31 the intervention arm meaning that the control arm might be underestimating the response  
32 rate more than the intervention arm by assuming that all the drop outs would have been non  
33 responders. It is also important to bear in mind that the intervention is delivered in the  
34 children's homes and is therefore an individual intervention rather than a group intervention,  
35 which will substantially increase the costs.

36 Using the probabilities outlined above in the model, applying them at 9 weeks and assuming  
37 responders remain responding until the end of the time horizon (as in the base case), and  
38 also amending the costs so that the cost per person is now £1,232 (this is made up of; 8  
39 hours of clinical psychologist time, 8 hours of prep time, 8 hours of prep time from an  
40 assistant. The cost of the assistant setting up and attending the training has been removed  
41 because it is assumed that no set up time is needed as the clinician goes to the patient's  
42 house, and also the assistant doesn't need to attend the course because it is not a group  
43 intervention) leads to an ICER of around £38,000 (deterministic analysis) making the NFPP  
44 not cost effective compared to treatment as usual.

45 If the intervention was a group intervention (if the cost per person from the base case  
46 analysis is assumed) then the intervention has an ICER of around £900 once the savings  
47 from the resource use avoided has been taken into account (because there is a large  
48 difference between responders and non-responders and costs would be avoided from  
49 appointments as well as the intervention being cheap because of only 1 hour per week for 8  
50 weeks). This is however based only on one study and needs to be interpreted with caution.

## 1 1.4 Discussion

### 2 1.4.1 Summary of results

3 The model has shown that the cost effectiveness of parent training is uncertain. A number of  
4 studies have been used as scenarios in the base case because of the heterogeneity of  
5 studies.

6 When behavioural outcomes instead of total symptom outcomes were used, the ICER was  
7 also above the NICE threshold.

### 8 1.4.2 Limitations and interpretation

9 There a number of limitations to the model that could impact upon the interpretation;

10 The heterogeneity between the studies because of differences in underlying treatment  
11 status, ADHD type, intensity of intervention, and scale used to define response, meant that  
12 pooling them wouldn't be methodologically accurate because the uncertainty around the  
13 pooled result would be so large that we don't have any idea of what type of distribution that  
14 data would have, which would also cause large variability in the draws from the PSA  
15 simulations. Therefore it was decided to keep the studies separate and have various base  
16 case analyses. It is then somewhat problematic to have multiple base case ICERS as we  
17 would not be certain which one is the most accurate. However this does tell us that the ICER  
18 is very sensitive to the inputs, and that there is variation in the effectiveness of the  
19 interventions which could be down to a number of factors. Trials also tend to be fairly small  
20 which affects the quality of their interpretation as an input into the model.

21 The differences in the studies as touched upon above make us question their quality. The  
22 Pfiffner study for example is in mostly an inattentive subtype population of children, and had  
23 only two participants taking medication. Therefore although this study is the closest to all the  
24 studies of having a medication naïve population, the fact it is only a subtype of ADHD makes  
25 it a less applicable population, and it would be difficult to extrapolate the effect from this to  
26 the other subtypes. The studies can vary from having hardly anyone on medication (Pfiffner  
27 2007), to having more than 70% of the study population on medication (Ostberg 2012).

28 As there were no drug naïve studies specifically (in a mixed subtype population), this  
29 precludes us from answering the question of whether parent training is cost effective as a  
30 first line treatment. Therefore based on the data that was available from the clinical review for  
31 the guideline, although the model is answering whether parent training (or some variation of  
32 it) is cost effective, this needs to be interpreted with caution as to how applicable these  
33 results might be to different baselines, and also whether the effectiveness of the intervention  
34 is anticipated to be the same depending on what the intervention might actually involve.

35 It may also be difficult to marry up the results of the model with the clinical review because  
36 the model inputs are dichotomous whereas the clinical outcomes prioritised in the clinical  
37 review are continuous. Most outcomes that involved the studies included in the model were  
38 not found to be effective in the clinical review on continuous outcomes. Some exceptions are  
39 poolings of ADHD symptoms that involve Handen 2015, Handen 2015 on the dichotomous  
40 CGI-I outcome, and the inattention outcomes from Pfiffner 2007. It may be that the different  
41 types of outcomes are capturing different aspects of the condition, or perhaps merely reflects  
42 that the arbitrary cut-offs decided for the different outcomes are not equivalent (for  
43 continuous outcomes; difference of >20% of the control group risk. and dichotomous  
44 outcomes; 50 more per 1000).

45 An important and related point that was discussed with the committee was whether all  
46 important effects were captured within the model (and is applicable to all models). The  
47 committee view was that the impact of behavioural therapies on the condition is not well

1 captured in trials. A more global function measure would be required to capture the impact  
2 on factors like self-esteem, organisation, relationships, coping with ADHD etc. and in general  
3 these more wider factors than just purely symptoms of hyperactivity and inattentiveness.  
4 Ideally quality of life or also perhaps the Clinical Global Impressions scales (CGI) are more  
5 global, but these were not as prominent in the review data as other outcomes that were more  
6 symptom based. There was therefore a strong conclusion from the committee that it is likely  
7 there are benefits from behavioural therapies that are not being captured in the model. And if  
8 in fact these were measurable and captured then this would lead to more responders which  
9 would mean more people to accrue a higher quality of life in the model.

10 No deterioration has been assumed for the baseline either, although it is possible that as  
11 children grow they often require dose increases based on their weight – so they can become  
12 tolerant to their prescribed dose, or may become non-adherent which could also cause  
13 deterioration, but it is possible this may be captured through the response rates for the  
14 control arms. The utilities used in the model come from a study in the Netherlands that used  
15 the UK EQ-5D tariff to elicit quality of life from parents of children with ADHD who are either  
16 responders or non-responders to medication. A limitation raised by the committee was that  
17 the quality of life of children that respond to medication may not be the same as that of  
18 children that respond to behavioural therapies, because different treatment might impact or  
19 have an effect on different symptoms associated with the condition, for example medication  
20 tends to primarily target ADHD symptoms, whereas behavioural interventions may help with  
21 symptoms but may also help with ODD symptoms and wider areas of functioning. There was  
22 however no quality of life data identified in people that were on behavioural therapy, either  
23 using relevant generic measures or applying utility elicitation methods to descriptions of  
24 health states.

25 It is often argued that generic quality of life measures are not sensitive enough to capture  
26 changes in quality of life associated with mental health conditions. There is no empirical  
27 evidence to suggest that the EQ-5D for example is not valid for an ADHD population.

28 There were a number of factors that are not included in the model that could be considered  
29 limitations. For example resource use such as how often a patient sees a GP or maybe goes  
30 to hospital if they are a responder or non-responder. Some literature has tried to investigate  
31 the cost of ADHD more generally and often compares with a group who do not have ADHD,  
32 which would not have been the right comparator to use as this would be assuming that those  
33 who did respond to ADHD consume the same resources as someone without ADHD which  
34 would probably be an underestimate. One Dutch study<sup>22</sup> compared the resource use of  
35 children who responded to treatment compared to those who did not respond to treatment,  
36 based on questionnaires sent out to parents to establish resource use over a one month  
37 period, and categorising the children into responders or non-responders based on  
38 descriptions given to parents. The type of resource use that was captured was that related to  
39 the condition alone and included direct medical consultations, skills training for children and  
40 parent training. The costs were extrapolated to over 12 months and found these were around  
41 £5,000 for responders and almost £8,000 for non-responders. The results of this study were  
42 not used in the model because it was felt that the resource use in a Dutch system might be  
43 more intensive than that in the UK. Also, it already includes costs associated with  
44 interventions like parent training and potentially other treatments as well, so there is probably  
45 some double counting. Some economic evaluations have included resource use associated  
46 with responders and non-responders to capture the difference. For example King 2006<sup>14</sup>  
47 included resource use associated with responders and non-responders that came from a  
48 survey of clinicians.

49 A point related to the above is how the structure of the model did not assume any further  
50 lines of treatment for non-responders, which could be seen as a limitation because in reality  
51 it is likely that if a child didn't respond to an intervention they would then try something else.  
52 There would have been many assumptions needing to be made about what the next stages  
53 of treatment might be. We know from the clinical studies that the model is based on for

1 treatment effect , that some of the patients were already on medication, therefore it is not a  
2 completely drug naïve group and so assuming that parent training was their first line  
3 treatment and then further assuming they follow the guideline drug pathway after that may  
4 not be appropriate. The complexities of deciding the drug pathway is quite patient specific  
5 and this is also the reason why the committee felt they couldn't model sequences of  
6 treatments in the other models in the guideline. The effectiveness of the next treatment in the  
7 sequence may also depend on how well someone responded to the previous treatment, and  
8 data on dependent probabilities is severely lacking. Additionally, omitting further treatment  
9 means the costs of any treatment people might go on to has been omitted, which may be  
10 different in the different arms because of the impact of parent training. Those on drugs will be  
11 seen at regular intervals anyway so it may be irrelevant what impact parent training has,  
12 unless it makes them stop drugs completely, or conversely – prevents them from starting  
13 drugs in the first place. There are many factors that we are uncertain of and for that reason  
14 could not be included in the model and so assumptions had to be made.

15 No adverse events were included in the model. It is important to note that there is a  
16 distinction between experiencing an adverse event from the intervention, and not adhering to  
17 the intervention (perhaps because the parents/children/teachers did not feel it was providing  
18 any benefit). We do not have any data on the adverse events of parent training as the  
19 adverse events review for the non-pharmacological treatments was a qualitative one. In  
20 terms of discontinuation, the studies report the average number of sessions or percentage of  
21 sessions attended, however the effectiveness should take this into account if it is an intention  
22 to treat analysis. So although we may be capturing the impact of non-attendance on  
23 outcomes, we may not be capturing the impact of this on costs by not explicitly including it in  
24 the model because the model may be underestimating the cost per family as if not all families  
25 attend then there are fewer families to spread the cost over. It is difficult to disentangle what  
26 might be direct adverse events from behavioural therapy, and what might actually be non-  
27 response and therefore trying to include adverse events in the model may results in double  
28 counting because this is already likely to be captured through intention to treat probabilities  
29 as mentioned.

30 In summary the model is simplistic, but adding further assumptions would only add further  
31 uncertainty.

### 32 1.4.3 Generalisability to other populations or settings

33 There are other similar behavioural therapy interventions that may not focus specifically on  
34 ADHD and are offered for other mental health conditions. The effectiveness of those may be  
35 different however because the purpose of the intervention might be different. Therefore there  
36 is uncertainty as to whether the results can be generalised to other populations. The intensity  
37 of the intervention can also vary and depends on the population and the setting. Whether the  
38 results can be generalisable to other countries depends on the healthcare system and costs  
39 of staff involved, as staff are the main resource involved in providing the intervention.

### 40 1.4.4 Comparisons with published studies

41 No published economic evaluations have been identified that looked at the cost effectiveness  
42 of parent training. This is an area severely lacking in economic evaluations.

43 The previous guideline model found an ICER of around £6,600 in the base case. There are a  
44 number of reasons why this is so different to the ICERs from the updated model; the QALY  
45 gains are smaller in this model because there is a smaller relative risk of response from the  
46 intervention compared to treatment. This means there is a smaller effect gain to apply a  
47 responder utility value to. The cost of the intervention is also higher in this model (and varies  
48 throughout the different base case analyses) because more components have been added  
49 such as more preparation time and an assistant, meaning the cost per person has increased.  
50 These two effects in combination lead to an overall higher ICER in this updated model.

1 The NICE guideline on Antisocial behaviour and conduct disorders in children and young  
 2 people: recognition and management (CG158) also conducted some original modelling  
 3 looking at non-pharmacological interventions in addition to usual care compared to usual  
 4 care alone. It did this separately for 3 different interventions; child focused interventions,  
 5 parent focused interventions, and multi-modal interventions. The structures were markov  
 6 models with time horizons of 8 or 9 years. The purpose of the analyses was to assess  
 7 whether the intervention cost would be off-set by potential cost savings resulting from  
 8 improvement in the behaviour of children and young people with conduct disorder. No  
 9 QALYs were used. Effectiveness of the interventions were simply translated to scores on a  
 10 child behavioural scale and cut-offs were used to determine if a child then moved from  
 11 having conduct disorder to conduct problems or no conduct problems (the three states), with  
 12 costs attached to each state. The models found that child focused treatment was cost saving,  
 13 but parent focused treatment and multi-modal interventions had higher costs than the  
 14 comparator. A secondary analysis on each model taking a wider perspective that also  
 15 included education and criminal justice costs showed all the interventions would then be cost  
 16 saving. If there is a net cost to the intervention then it is hard to compare this to the results of  
 17 the models in this ADHD guideline because there are no QALYs used to derive if the  
 18 additional cost is cost-effective. If costs from other public sectors were included in the ADHD  
 19 guideline models it is possible that the interventions may appear more likely to be cost  
 20 effective, although there are differences in the needs and behaviours of an ADHD population  
 21 and a population with conduct disorder, but comorbidities are very common in mental health.  
 22 Our models found that parent training cost effectiveness is uncertain, but also that the  
 23 addition of behavioural therapy/CBT on to medication in people who are only partial  
 24 responders (see appendix 2) are potentially unlikely to be cost effective.

### 25 1.4.5 Conclusions

26 The focus of this model was to evaluate the cost effectiveness of a course of parent training  
 27 compared to no parent training.

28 The model found that parent training had a varying ICER in the base case analyses and  
 29 therefore cost effectiveness is uncertain. The model is simple and has limitations such as no  
 30 assumptions being made about further treatment, only being based on a few studies (and  
 31 mostly single studies), which all contribute to the uncertainty in the results.

### 32 1.4.6 Implications for future research

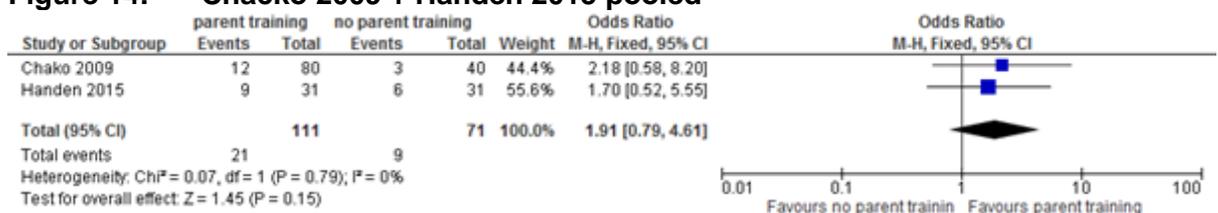
33 As economic evaluations of non-pharmacological treatments is an area lacking in literature,  
 34 ideally this model would encourage further research in the area.

## 35 1.5 Heterogeneity statistics for included studies

36 Below are the forest plots showing the study data used in the analysis, such as odds ratios  
 37 used to derive the relative treatment probability, and the crude numbers of responders for the  
 38 baseline arms.

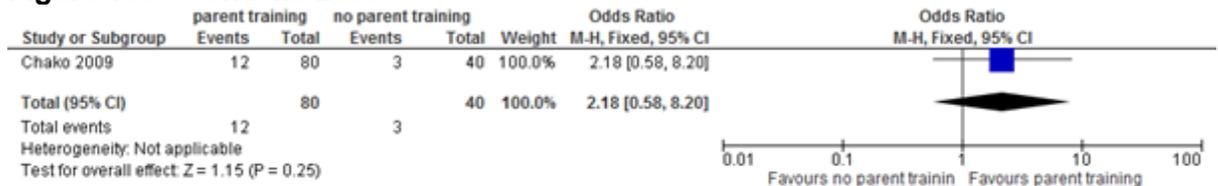
39 Where there has been studies pooled the heterogeneity can also be seen.

Figure 14: Chacko 2009 + Handen 2015 pooled

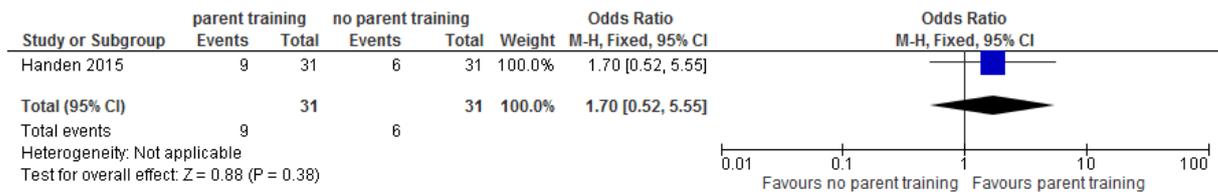


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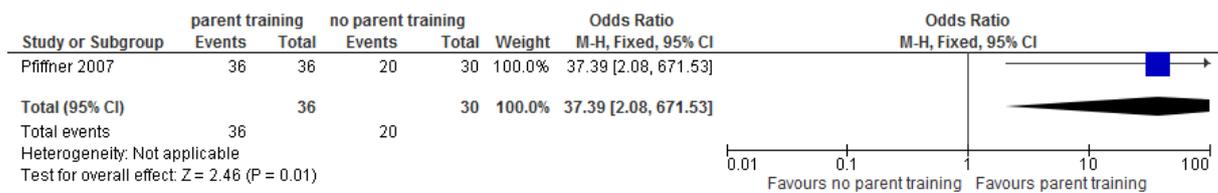
**Figure 15: Chacko 2009**



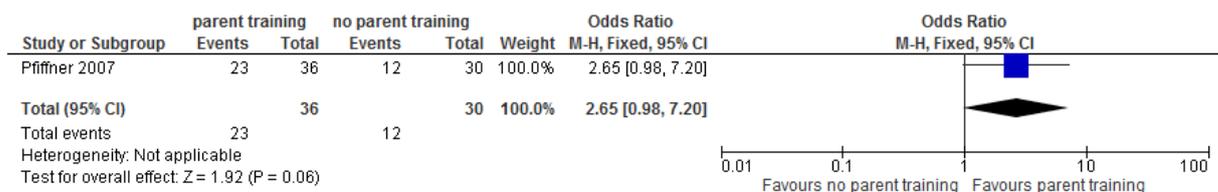
**Figure 16: Handen 2015**



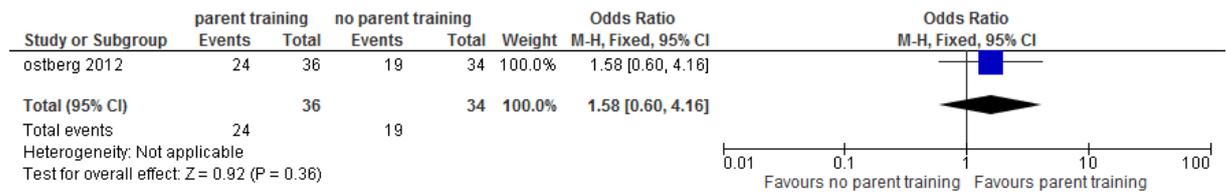
**Figure 17: Pfiffner 2007 (post treatment)**



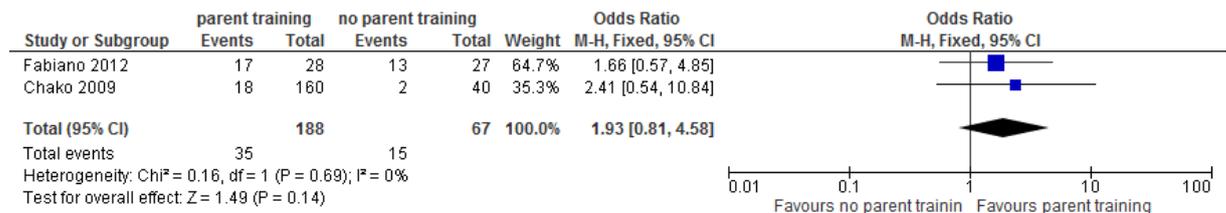
**Figure 18: Pfiffner 2007 (3 months follow up post treatment)**



**Figure 19: Ostberg 2012**



**Figure 20: Behavioural outcomes sensitivity analysis**



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# Appendices

## Appendix A: Search strategy

### A.1 Health Economics literature search strategy

Quality of life evidence was identified by conducting a broad search relating to ADHD population in Medline and Embase.

**Table 15: Database date parameters and filters used**

Database	Dates searched	Search filter used
Medline	2008 – 28 September 2015	Exclusions Quality of life
Embase	2008 – 28 September 2015	Exclusions Quality of life

#### Medline (Ovid) search terms

1.	"attention deficit and disruptive behavior disorders"/ or attention deficit disorder with hyperactivity/
2.	((attenti* or disrupt*) adj3 (adolescent* or adult* or behav* or child* or class or classes or classroom* or condition* or difficult* or disorder* or learn* or people or person* or poor or problem* or process* or youngster*)).ti.
3.	((attenti* or disrupt*) adj3 disorder*).ab.
4.	(adhd or addh or ad hd or ad??hd).ti,ab.
5.	(attenti* adj3 deficit*).ti,ab.
6.	((hyperkin* or hyper kin*) adj1 (syndrome* or disorder*)) or hkd).ti,ab.
7.	(minimal brain adj2 (dysfunct* or disorder*)).ti,ab.
8.	or/1-7
9.	limit 8 to English language
10.	letter/
11.	editorial/
12.	news/
13.	exp historical article/
14.	Anecdotes as Topic/
15.	comment/
16.	case report/
17.	(letter or comment*).ti.
18.	or/10-17
19.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
20.	18 not 19
21.	animals/ not humans/
22.	Animals, Laboratory/
23.	exp animal experiment/
24.	exp animal model/
25.	exp Rodentia/

26.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
27.	or/20-26
28.	9 not 27
29.	quality-adjusted life years/
30.	sickness impact profile/
31.	(quality adj2 (wellbeing or well being)).ti,ab.
32.	sickness impact profile.ti,ab.
33.	disability adjusted life.ti,ab.
34.	(qal* or qtime* or qwb* or daly*).ti,ab.
35.	(euroqol* or eq5d* or eq 5*).ti,ab.
36.	(qol* or hql* or hqol* or h qol* or hrqol* or hr qol*).ti,ab.
37.	(health utility* or utility score* or disutilit* or utility value*).ti,ab.
38.	(hui or hui1 or hui2 or hui3).ti,ab.
39.	(health* year* equivalent* or hye or hyes).ti,ab.
40.	discrete choice*.ti,ab.
41.	rosser.ti,ab.
42.	(willingness to pay or time tradeoff or time trade off or tto or standard gamble*).ti,ab.
43.	(sf36* or sf 36* or short form 36* or shortform 36* or shortform36*).ti,ab.

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#### Embase (Ovid) search terms

1.	attention deficit disorder/
2.	((attenti* or disrupt*) adj3 (adolescent* or adult* or behav* or child* or class or classes or classroom* or condition* or difficult* or disorder* or learn* or people or person* or poor or problem* or process* or youngster*)).ti.
3.	((attenti* or disrupt*) adj3 disorder*).ab.
4.	(adhd or addh or ad hd or ad??hd).ti,ab.
5.	(attenti* adj3 deficit*).ti,ab.
6.	((hyperkin* or hyper kin*) adj1 (syndrome* or disorder*)) or hkd).ti,ab.
7.	(minimal brain adj2 (dysfunct* or disorder*)).ti,ab.
8.	or/1-7
9.	limit 8 to English language
10.	letter.pt. or letter/
11.	note.pt.
12.	editorial.pt.
13.	case report/ or case study/
14.	(letter or comment*).ti.
15.	or/10-14
16.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
17.	15 not 16
18.	animal/ not human/
19.	nonhuman/
20.	exp Animal Experiment/
21.	exp Experimental Animal/
22.	animal model/

23.	exp Rodent/
24.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
25.	or/17-24
26.	9 not 25
27.	quality adjusted life year/
28.	"quality of life index"/
29.	short form 12/ or short form 20/ or short form 36/ or short form 8/
30.	sickness impact profile/
31.	(quality adj2 (wellbeing or well being)).ti,ab.
32.	sickness impact profile.ti,ab.
33.	disability adjusted life.ti,ab.
34.	(qal* or qtime* or qwb* or daly*).ti,ab.
35.	(euroqol* or eq5d* or eq 5*).ti,ab.
36.	(qol* or hql* or hqol* or h qol* or hrqol* or hr qol*).ti,ab.
37.	(health utility* or utility score* or disutilit* or utility value*).ti,ab.
38.	(hui or hui1 or hui2 or hui3).ti,ab.
39.	(health* year* equivalent* or hye or hyes).ti,ab.
40.	discrete choice*.ti,ab.
41.	rosser.ti,ab.
42.	(willingness to pay or time tradeoff or time trade off or tto or standard gamble*).ti,ab.
43.	(sf36* or sf 36* or short form 36* or shortform 36* or shortform36*).ti,ab.
44.	(sf20 or sf 20 or short form 20 or shortform 20 or shortform20).ti,ab.
45.	(sf12* or sf 12* or short form 12* or shortform 12* or shortform12*).ti,ab.
46.	(sf8* or sf 8* or short form 8* or shortform 8* or shortform8*).ti,ab.
47.	(sf6* or sf 6* or short form 6* or shortform 6* or shortform6*).ti,ab.
48.	or/27-47
49.	26 and 48