Cathryn Fuller
Technology Appraisal Project Manager
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Dear Cathryn

Health Technology Appraisal Coronary artery stents for the prevention of ischaemic
heart disease (review of guidance no. 71)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the assessment report on the use of
coronary artery stents for the prevention of ischaemic heart disease.

Colleagues here who commented on the report expressed concern that the overall
impression is that much of the trial evidence is not comparable or insufficiently long
term, resulting in difficulties in drawing firm conclusions. They were also concerned
that the cost effectiveness data within the report shows huge variation. Colleagues
understanding of the international experience would appear to conflict with the
report's conclusion.

Yours sincerely

Head of Clinical and Cost Effectiveness Branch Department of Health