Dear Natalie

Please take this e-mail as confirmation that the Royal College of Physicians wishes to endorse the response of the British Society for Rheumatology and the submission of Professor Juliet Compston to these ACDs.

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt.

Best wishes.

Jeremy Powell
I attach the Appraisal Consultation Documents (ACDs) and evaluation report for the two appraisals for these technologies and I am writing to invite your comments on the contents of these documents.

Hard copies of these documents will also be sent to you. If you want a hard copy and have not received one by the end of the week, please contact us and we will ensure that one is sent to you.

The Appraisals Committee is interested in receiving your comments on the ACDs under the following general headings.

i) whether you consider that all of the relevant evidence has been taken into account

ii) whether you consider that the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness are reasonable interpretations of the evidence and that the preliminary views on the resource impact and implications for the NHS are appropriate

iii) whether you consider that the provisional recommendations of the Appraisal Committee are sound and constitute a suitable basis for the preparation of guidance to the NHS.

If you wish to comment on the evaluation report, please do so under a separate heading to your comments on the ACDs.

Please note that your comments, along with a summary table of these comments and the action taken in response to them will be released to consultees and commentators with the Final Appraisal Determinations (FADs) for these appraisals, and published on the Institute’s web site.

Our preferred medium for receiving your comments is electronic, either by email to natalie.bemrose@nice.org.uk or in compact or floppy disk format, using Microsoft Office software products (the Institute uses Office 2003 and can access documents in any previous MS Word formats). Comments sent by post should be addressed to Natalie Bemrose, Technology Appraisal Project Manager, at NICE, MidCity Place, 71 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NA.

The Appraisal Committee will reconsider the ACDs in the light of feedback received at a meeting on 1st May 2008. In order to incorporate your comments into the meeting papers, we will need them by 17:00 on 23 April 2008.
The ACDs will be posted on the Institute’s website on 4 April 2008. People who are not formal consultees for this appraisal can comment on the ACDs through an email link on the website. However, we do not wish to receive comments from formal consultees via the website. Please send your comments directly to the Technology Appraisal Project Manager, either by email or by post.

I must emphasise that the documents enclosed with this letter and their contents are confidential. They are released to you only for the purpose of informing the Appraisal Committee’s consideration of these technologies. Accordingly, neither the documents nor their contents should be divulged to anyone other than those individuals within your organisation who need to see to them to enable you to prepare your response. You must ensure that anyone to whom you show the documents is aware of their confidentiality.

The use of any information contained in the ACDs to make investment decisions regarding any shares or other securities, or the passing of such information to someone else for such use, may constitute insider dealing, which is a criminal offence under section 52 of the Criminal Justice Act 1993. It may also be an offence to encourage someone else to deal in shares or securities, the price of which would be affected by the disclosure to the public of any information contained in the ACDs.

Yours sincerely,

Carole Longson
Director, Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

Attached:

ACD - Alendronate, etidronate, risedronate, raloxifene and strontium ranelate for the primary prevention of osteoporotic fragility fractures in postmenopausal women

ACD - Alendronate, etidronate, risedronate, raloxifene, strontium ranelate and teriparatide for the secondary prevention of osteoporotic fragility fractures in postmenopausal women

Evaluation Report