

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the December edition of our Public Involvement update from the Public Involvement Programme at NICE. For more information about how we involve patients and the public in NICE's work please visit our [get involved](#) page on the NICE website. If you would like information on all of NICE's work, please subscribe to our [e-newsletter and alerts](#). NICE is also on Twitter – for news and updates please follow [@NICEComms](#).

Healthwatch organisations and national patient, carer and voluntary organisations are welcome to get involved in the development of NICE guidance if you would like to. To do this for clinical, public health, social care guidance and quality standards, you will need to register as a stakeholder organisation for the specific topics of interest to you. [NICE stakeholder registration](#).

If you have any comments about the content of this update or ideas about what you'd like to see in the next edition, please contact sally.taylor@nice.org.uk

In this month's update:

1. **News (Click the header links)**

2.
 - **NICE guidance on smoking cessation in hospitals could have a major impact on cutting smoking rates**
Clinicians should make better use of opportunities to help people quit smoking when they present to hospitals in England, and have the potential to prevent hundreds of thousands of premature deaths by reaching 1.1 million smokers each year, say researchers
 - **NICE refutes arguments against wider statin use**
Responding to an open letter sent to the House of Commons Health Select Committee, NICE chair Professor David Haslam has said statins are safe and effective.
 - **Improve access to supplements to help prevent vitamin D deficiency**
Wider availability of low-cost supplements could help prevent health problems in millions of people at risk of vitamin D deficiency, NICE says.
 - **Offer weight loss surgery to obese people with diabetes**
The NHS should offer weight loss surgery to thousands more people in order to tackle an epidemic of type 2 diabetes, says NICE.
 - **NICE calls for an end to postcode lottery of IVF treatment**
The NHS should stop rationing fertility treatment and provide 3 full cycles of IVF treatment to women aged under 40 who have failed to get pregnant after 2 years of trying, and 1 full cycle for some women aged 40-42, says NICE.
 - **Drug recommended to help cut drink dependence**
 - NICE has approved the use of nalmefene to help people who are dependent on alcohol to cut down on the amount they drink.

- **Schools should help children learn how to brush their teeth**
Schools and nurseries should run tooth brushing schemes to help standardise the oral health of younger children, says NICE.
- **Using NICE's approach to base policy decisions on evidence could help save billions**
Applying NICE's evidence-based model to public policymaking could help to save billions of pounds of taxpayers' money by helping doctors, head teachers, police chiefs and many others make smarter decisions based on what works and what doesn't.
- **Call to reduce variation in care of COPD patients**
Care for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) has improved but some services continue to vary widely, according to a new report.
- **Greater support to help GPs spot the warning signs of cancer.**
NICE is updating its guideline on suspected cancer to help GPs spot the early signs and symptoms of cancer.

2. Current consultations (*Click the header links*)

We are aware that sometimes our consultation deadlines mean that it isn't possible for Healthwatches to engage with their members as much as they might like. To try and help with this, NICE has a database of [milestone dates](#) (see right hand column under 'Further Information' on the webpage) for its clinical guideline programme. This means that you can see when consultations are scheduled in advance of the consultation starting. You can also see all the topics you might be interested in [registering as a stakeholder](#) for.

Guidelines

- **Anaemia management in chronic kidney disease (update)**
17 November – 8 January 2015
- **Bronchiolitis in children**
17 November – 5 January 2015
- **Suspected cancer**
20 November – 18 December 2014
- **Violence and aggression (update)**
19 November – 14 January 2015

Quality standards

- **Osteoarthritis**
21 November – 19 December 2014
- **Personality disorders (borderline and antisocial)**
21 November – 19 December 2014

Interventional Procedure

Implantation of Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) for destination therapy

20 November – 18 December 2014

- **Insertion of a balloon device to disimpact an engaged fetal head prior to emergency caesarean section**

20 November – 18 December 2014

- **Radiofrequency ablation for gastric antral vascular ectasia**

20 November – 18 December 2014

- **Transanal total mesorectal excision of the rectum**

20 November – 18 December 2014

- **Ultrasound enhanced catheter-directed thrombolysis for deep vein thrombosis**

20 November – 18 December 2014

- **Ultrasound enhanced catheter-directed thrombolysis for pulmonary embolism**

20 November – 18 December 2014

3. Opportunities to get involved (*click the header links*)

NICE committees and working groups are made up of health, social care and other professionals and practitioners, patients, service users, carers and members of the public and technical experts. Current vacancies are listed on [this page](#), all vacancies close at 5pm on the day of the deadline unless otherwise stated. This is a list of vacancies for patients, service users, carers and lay people:

- **Acute heart failure quality standards: Advisory Committee**

Clinical Guideline, closes **5pm, 9 December 2014**

- **Sepsis - Light Cyler SeptiFast test MGRADE**

Diagnostic Assessment Programme, closes **5pm, 10 December 2014**

- **Sexually harmful behaviour among young people**

Public Health, closes **5pm, 10 December 2014**

- **Severe mental illness with substance misuse (dual diagnosis)**

Public Health, closes **5pm, 10 December 2014**

- **Antimicrobial resistance**

Public Health, closes **5pm, 10 December 2014**

- **Cystic fibrosis**

Clinical Guideline, closes **5pm, 18 December 2014**

- **Prophylaxis against infective endocarditis**

Clinical Guideline, closes **12noon, 22 December 2014**

Upcoming recruitments:

Check [the recruitment page](#) for upcoming recruitments and further details on start dates. The following topics will open for recruitment over the coming months:

- **Eating Disorders update**
Clinical Guideline, **February 2015**
- **Depression update**
Clinical Guideline, **March 2015**

4. Newly Published Guidance (click the links)

For the full list of last month’s guidance, please see [here](#).

Ref	Title	Type
CG189	Obesity: identification, assessment and management of overweight and obesity in children, young people and adults	Clinical Guideline
PH56	Vitamin D: increasing supplement use among at-risk groups	Public Health

5. Noticeboard – Sharing Information, Events and Updates in Patient and Public Involvement

To request to feature on the Noticeboard, please contact sally.taylor@nice.org.uk

- **NICE training workshop: ‘Introduction to NICE’ – 3 March 2015**

The NICE Public Involvement Programme runs training workshops (‘Masterclasses’) for third-sector stakeholder organisations.

Details can be found on the [NICE Public Involvement masterclasses website page](#).

On **Tuesday 3 March 2015**, we are running our introductory session ‘**Introduction to NICE**’ which may be of interest to you, as our patient/public involvement colleagues. The full agenda will be on the webpage shortly. Attendance is free, but we are unable to pay for travel. If you are interested in attending, please see the details on the webpage and then contact us: by email PIP@nice.org.uk, or phone 0161 219 3904, to request a formal invitation and booking form. Places are limited to one per organisation and are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

