

## **Varicose Veins Guideline Development Group Meeting (GDG) 6**

**Date and Time:** **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012 (10:00–16:30)**

**Minutes:** *Confirmed*

**Place:** *Boardroom, National Clinical Guideline Centre (NCGC), 180 Great Portland Street, London W1W 5QZ*

**GDG Present:** *(All present for notes 1–9 except where stated)*

Prof. Alun Davies (Chair) (AD)  
Dr Mustapha Azzam (MA)  
Prof. Andrew Bradbury (AB)  
Joyce Calam (JC)  
David Evans (DE)  
Mr Nick Hickey (NH)  
Mr Keith Poskitt (KP)  
Hazel Trender (HT)  
Dr Mark Vaughan (MV)

**In attendance:** *(All present for notes 1–9 except where stated)*

**NCGC Staff:** Karen Head (KH)  
Dr Kate Kelley (KK)  
Grace Marsden (GM)  
Dr Norma O’Flynn (NOF)  
Dr Mark Perry (MP)  
Richard Whittome (RW) (Present for notes 1-2)  
David Wonderling (DW) (Present for notes 5-9)

**Apologies** Dr Jocelyn Brookes (JB)  
Caroline Keir (CK)

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Welcome**

AD welcomed the group to the sixth Varicose Veins Guideline Development Group Meeting (GDG6). It was noted that JB and CK had send apologies for absence.

AD invited everyone to declare their interests. AD declared a new non-personal pecuniary interest; a grant of was awarded to the research department from Geko to fund a trial looking at an electrical stimulation tool for the prevention of VTE. He declared a new personal pecuniary interest, he helped organise and attended major meeting (Charing Cross Symposium) with multiple industrial sponsors and attended meal. He declared a new personal pecuniary interest, he received a bursary to cover travel and accommodation expenses from Australasian College of Phlebology (ACP) to attend and lecture at their annual meeting (Australia). The meeting organisers would have had industrial sponsorship. He declared a new personal pecuniary interest he aAttended and meeting with Servier (Paris) to discuss Daflon a pharmaceutical treatment of varicose veins. Servier paid

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travel expenses.

MA declared a new non-personal pecuniary interest; he had been invited to dinner with Sapheon to discuss endovenous treatment of varicose veins.

AB declared a new non-personal pecuniary interest; he is involved in research studies with Vorisolve who make commercial foam. He declared a new personal non-pecuniary interest; he has attended a research meeting speaking on venous disease with meeting sponsorship by multiple sponsors.

HT declared a new non-personal pecuniary interest; she has been sponsored by Activa for registration and accommodation at the venous forum.

There were no changes to any of the other GDG members' and NCGC staff's DOIs since the last meeting. No actions were taken following these declarations and none of the GDG members withdrew during discussion.

The minutes of GDG 5 were agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting, there were no matters arising.

### **2. Referral to Specialist Protocols Update**

Members of the NCGC Technical Team presented the review protocol for the clinical questions for referral to a specialist. The review protocols were discussed and agreed.

### **3. Review question – What are the perceptions and expectations of people with varicose veins and how can they be addressed?**

Members of the NCGC Technical Team presented the clinical evidence found for this question to the GDG. The GDG discussed the evidence and developed draft recommendations.

### **4. Claromentis refresher session**

KH provided a refresher on how to use the Claromentis system.

### **5. Review question – What is the diagnostic accuracy of hand held doppler (HHD) compared to the gold standard of Duplex scanning in patients with varicose veins?**

Members of the NCGC Technical Team presented the clinical and health economic evidence found for this question to the GDG. The GDG discussed the evidence.

### **6. Review question – Does the use of duplex ultrasound during assessment improve outcome after interventional treatment compared to no duplex scanning in people with leg varicose veins?**

Members of the NCGC Technical Team presented the clinical and health economic evidence found for this question to the GDG. The GDG discussed the evidence alongside the evidence presented in agenda item 5 and developed draft recommendations.

### **7. Health Economics**

GM gave a presentation on Decision Rules used in the health economics of guideline development. She also updated the group on the health economics model. The GDG discussed the progress.

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### **8. Network Meta Analysis (NMA)**

MP updated the group on the possible outcomes which could be used within a NMA for the guideline.

### **9. Any other business and summary of next steps**

No items of additional business were raised.

### **Date, time and venue of the next meeting**

Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup> (10:00–16:30); Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London W1W 5QZ

NB: Subsequent to the meeting, the scheduled meeting on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May was cancelled. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July.