

**HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL: Laparoscopic surgery for
the treatment of colorectal cancer
Comments on Assessment Report**

To: NICE

**FROM: NHS Quality
Improvement Scotland**

Comment from NHS QIS nominated expert

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the NICE Technology Appraisal on laparoscopic surgery for the treatment of colorectal cancer. I consider this report to be comprehensive and the methodology employed appears to have been robust. From my own knowledge and having read through the report I very much concur with the cautious approach to the conclusions of the report and particularly the implications for the NHS. I agree also with all the implications for research, although I am concerned that the current literature may suffer from reporting bias and if laparoscopic surgery is to be done outside randomised controlled trials it is essential that data on short and long-term outcomes are made available. I think it would also be useful to carry out a comprehensive and detailed audit of all laparoscopic colorectal surgery done throughout the country. I hope these comments are useful.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Professor R J C Steele