# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

# Diagnostics Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting minutes

**Minutes:** Confirmed

**Date and time:** 22 October 2024

**Location:** Via Zoom

## Attendees

Committee members present

1. Brian Shine (Chair) Present for all items
2. Alex Novak Present for all items
3. Diane Davies Present for all items
4. Farai Goromonzi Present for items 3 to 4.2.3
5. John Cairns Present for all items
6. Jonathan Weir-McCall Present for all items
7. Keith Abrams Present for all items
8. Matt Stevenson Present for all items
9. Neil Hawkins Present for all items
10. Patrick McGinley Present for all items
11. Radha Ramachandran Present for all items
12. Rashmi Kumar Present for all items
13. Rebecca Allcock Present for all items
14. Sam Creavin Present for items 1 to 4.2.1

**Specialist committee members present**

Graham Hill, Lay specialist committee member Present for items 1 to 2.2.3

Iain Wheatley, Nurse Consultant, Frimley Health NHS Foundation Present for items 1 to 2.2.3 Trust

Sophie West, Respiratory Consultant, The Newcastle upon Tyne Present for items 1 to 2.1.3

NHS Foundation Trust

Eugene Healy, Department Chair and Head of Dermatology, Present for items 3 to 4.2.3 Southampton General Hospital

John Lear, Consultant Dermatologist, Mid Cheshire NHS Present for items 3 to 4.2.1 Hospitals Foundation Trust

Kate Hawley, Lay specialist Present for items 3 to 4.2.2

Roger Aldridge, Consultant Plastic Surgeon & Consultant Present for items 3 to 4.2.3 Dermatological Surgeon, NHS Lanarkshire and NHS Lothian

Rubeta Matin, Consultant Dermatologist, Mid Cheshire NHS Present for items 3 to 4.1.6 Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Stephanie Gallard, Dermatology GPSI for the Liverpool ICATS, Present for items 3 to 4.2.3 Liverpool University FT

Stephen McKenna, Professor, Research Cluster Lead Present for items 3 to 4.1.6 (Computer Sciences & Informatics), University of Dundee

Susan Mountain, Lay specialist Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

**Experts**

Jessie Felton, Consultant Dermatologist, Croydon University Present for items 3 to 4.1.6 Hospital NHS Trust

Lucy Thomas, Consultant Dermatologist, Chelsea & Westminster Present for items 3 to 4.1.3 NHS Foundation Trust

**External assessment group representatives present**

Jonathan Shepherd, Principal Research Fellow, Southampton Present for items 1 to 2.1.6

Health Technology Assessments Centre (SHTAC)   
Jaime Peters, Senior Research Fellow, University of Exeter Present for items 1 to 2.1.6

Mark Simmonds, Senior Research Fellow, University of York Present for items 3 to 4.1.6

Matthew Walton, Research Fellow, University of York Present for items 3 to 4.1.6

NICE staff present

Anastasia Chalkidou, Programme Director, Health Tech Present for items 4 to 4.2.3

Lizzy Latimer, Associate Director, Health Tech Present for all items

Judith Shore, Technical Adviser, Health Tech Present for items 1 to 2.2.3

Frances Nixon, Technical Adviser, Health Tech Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

Ziqi Zhou, Technical Analyst, HealthTech Present for items 1 to 2.2.3

Aman Khan, Technical Analyst, Health Tech Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

Toni Gasse, Project Manager, Health Tech Present for items 1 to 2.1.2 and 3 to 4.2.3

Deonee Stanislaus, Project Manager, HealthTech Present for items 1 to 3.2

Elaine Sale, Administrator, HealthTech Present for all items

Ella Van Bergen, Coordinator, Health Tech Present for all items

Observers present

Sana Issa, Coordinator, Meetings in Public, NICE Present for items 1 to 2.1.6 and 3 to 4.1.6

Anna Sparshatt, Medical Editor, NICE Present for all items

Edgar Masanga, Business Analyst, Resource Impact Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

Assessment Team

Thomas Lawrence, Evidence Generation Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

Abdullah Zafar , GP Specialist Trainee Registrar, Clinical Team Present for items 1 to 2.1.6

Michael Merchant, Senior Analyst, Healthcare Data & Analytics Present for items 3 to 4.2.3

Nancy Pursey, HTA Analyst, Health Tech team Present for all items

## Minutes

**Topic 1: Novel home-testing devices for diagnosing obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome**

1. Introduction to the meeting
   1. The Chair welcomed members of the committee and other attendees present to the meeting.
   2. The Chair noted apologies from standing committee members Anne Scott, Ghada Ahmed, Joy Allen, and Michael Morton, and Specialist committee members Heather Elphick, Dipansu Ghosh, Himender Makker, James Oliver, and Jack Woolcomb. He also noted that standing committee member Farai Goromonzi was excluded due to a conflict of interests, and Specialist committee member Heather Elphick would be limited to attending Part 1 of the meeting only, due to a conflict of interests.
   3. The Chair confirmed the committee had approved the minutes of the committee meeting held on 18 September 2024.
2. Appraisal of Novel home-testing devices for diagnosing obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome
   1. Part 1 – Open session
      1. The Chair welcomed external assessment group (EAG) representatives, members of the public, and company representatives from Acurable Ltd, Nomics S.A., ResMed, Sunrise and ZOLL Itamar.
      2. The Chair asked all committee members and specialist committee members to declare any new relevant interests in relation to the topic being considered in addition to those declared in advance of the meeting. A register of interests for committee and specialist committee members can be found on the NICE web page for this assessment: [Novel home-testing devices for diagnosing obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-dg10074)
      3. The Committee proceeded to discuss the comments made during the public consultation for the ‘Novel home-testing devices for diagnosing obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome’ assessment. The Committee was asked if there were any specific equality issues to consider in relation to this assessment.
      4. The Chair asked the company representatives whether they wished to comment on any matters of factual accuracy.
      5. The Chair thanked the company representatives, public observers and the External Assessment Group for their attendance at the meeting.
      6. The Chair explained that “representatives of the press and other members of the public be excluded from the remainder of this meeting having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, publicity on which would be prejudicial to the public interest (Section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)” and the company representatives, public observers and External Assessment Group left the meeting.
   2. Part 2 - Closed session
      1. The committee discussed confidential information submitted for this item.
      2. The committee discussed next steps.
      3. The committee asked the NICE technical team to prepare the Final Draft Guidance in line with their decisions.

**Topic 2: Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for assessing and triaging skin lesions within the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway**

1. Introduction to the meeting
   1. The Chair welcomed members of the committee and other attendees present to the meeting.
   2. The Chair noted apologies from standing committee members Anne Scott, Ghada Ahmed, Joy Allen, and Michael Morton, and Specialist committee member Nalayini Kumaralingam. He also noted that Specialist committee members Rubeta Matin and Stephen McKenna would be limited to attending Part 1 of the meeting only, due to conflicts of interest.
2. Appraisal of Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for assessing and triaging skin lesions within the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway
   1. Part 1 – Open session
      1. The Chair welcomed external assessment group (EAG) representatives, experts, members of the public, and company representatives from Fotofinder Systems Ltd and Skin Analytics.
      2. The Chair introduced two clinical experts with experience of the technologies being assessed, and asked all committee members, specialist committee members and experts to declare any new relevant interests in relation to the topic being considered in addition to those declared in advance of the meeting. A register of interests for committee, specialist committee members and experts can be found on the NICE web page for this assessment: [Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for assessing and triaging skin lesions within the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-hte10047)
      3. The Committee proceeded to discuss the comments made during the public consultation for the ‘Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for assessing and triaging skin lesions within the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway’ topic. The Committee was asked if there were any specific equality issues to consider in relation to this assessment.
      4. The Chair asked the company representatives whether they wished to comment on any matters of factual accuracy.
      5. The Chair thanked the company representatives, public observers, experts and the External Assessment Group for their attendance at the meeting.
      6. The Chair explained that “representatives of the press and other members of the public be excluded from the remainder of this meeting having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, publicity on which would be prejudicial to the public interest (Section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)” and the company representatives, public observers, experts and External Assessment Group left the meeting.
   2. Part 2 – Closed session

4.2.1 The committee discussed confidential information submitted for this item.

4.2.2 The committee discussed next steps and voted on the recommendations they would make in the Final Draft Guidance.

4.2.3 The committee asked the NICE technical team to prepare the Final Draft Guidance in line with their decisions.

1. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Diagnostics Advisory Committee (DAC) will be held on Thursday 9 January 2025 and will start promptly at 9:00.