



Surveillance report 2016 – Autism spectrum disorder in adults (2012) NICE guideline CG142

Surveillance report

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Surveillance decision

We will not update the guideline at this time.

Reason for the decision

We found 50 new studies through surveillance of this guideline.

This included new evidence on:

- Assessment, monitoring and management of coexisting conditions in adults with autism.
- Identifying the correct interventions and monitoring their use.
- The effectiveness of vocational and supported employment programmes.
- Psychosocial interventions.
- Biomedical interventions, including complementary and alternative medicine and physiotherapy.
- Organisation and delivery of care.

We asked topic experts whether this new evidence would affect current recommendations on autism spectrum disorder in adults. Generally, the topic experts thought that an update was not needed.

We did not find any new evidence on:

- Experiences of families, partners and carers of adults with autism.
- Signs and symptoms of possible autism.
- Methods/tools for case identification.
- The effectiveness of educational interventions.
- Factors that moderate the effectiveness of interventions.

- The role of families, partners and carers in supporting the delivery of interventions.
- Information and day-to-day support for families, partners and carers.
- Essential elements in the effective provision of support services for the individual, day care and residential care.

None of the new evidence considered in surveillance of this guideline was thought to have an effect on current recommendations.

Equalities

No equalities issues were identified during the surveillance process.

Overall decision

After considering all the new evidence and views of topic experts, we decided that no update is necessary for this guideline.

See [how we made the decision](#) for further information.

Commentary on selected new evidence

With advice from topic experts we did not select any studies for further commentary.

How we made the decision

We check our guidelines regularly to ensure they remain up to date. We based the decision on surveillance 4 years after the publication of [Autism spectrum disorder in adults \(2012\) NICE guideline CG142](#).

For details of the process and update decisions that are available, see [ensuring that published guidelines are current and accurate](#) in 'Developing NICE guidelines: the manual'.

Previous surveillance [update decisions](#) for the guideline are on our website.

New evidence

We found 38 new studies in a search for randomised controlled trials and systematic reviews published between 27 November 2013 and 3 March 2016. We also considered 2 additional studies identified by members of the guideline committee who originally worked on this guideline.

Evidence identified in previous surveillance 2 years after publication of the guideline was also considered. This included 10 studies identified by search.

From all sources, 50 studies were considered to be relevant to the guideline.

We also checked for relevant ongoing research, which will be evaluated again at the next surveillance review of the guideline.

See [appendix A](#): summary of new evidence from surveillance and references for all new evidence considered.

Views of topic experts

We considered the views of topic experts, including those who helped to develop the guideline.

Views of stakeholders

Stakeholders commented on the decision not to update the guideline. See [appendix B](#) for stakeholders' comments and our responses.

Three stakeholders agreed with the decision not to update the guideline and another two disagreed, expressing a need for the guideline to be updated in the area of organisation of care. Relevant ongoing research was cited relating to specialist autism teams.

In the current surveillance review none of the new evidence considered was thought to have an impact on the current recommendations. Two stakeholders agreed and another two disagreed with the decision to place NICE guideline CG142 on the static list. The ongoing research relating to specialist autism teams was cited again to indicate the need for regular surveillance. Given that this research is due to be published in the near future, we decided not to place NICE guideline CG142 on the static list.

See [ensuring that published guidelines are current and accurate](#) in 'Developing NICE guidelines: the manual' for more details on our consultation processes.

NICE Surveillance programme project team

Sarah Willett

Associate Director

Philip Alderson

Consultant Clinical Adviser

Emma McFarlane

Technical Adviser

Stephen Sharp

Technical Analyst

The NICE project team would like to thank the topic experts who participated in the surveillance process.