

18 Sept 2008

**Sent by e-mail**

Dear Consultee/commentator,

**Health Technology Appraisals**

**Intensity modulated radiotherapy for treatment of head and neck cancer  
Intensity modulated radiotherapy for the treatment of prostate cancer  
Intensity modulated radiotherapy for the treatment of breast cancer**

At the Consultee information meeting held on 3 September issues emerged that lead us to conclude that further discussions with the Department of Health are required to establish how best to progress these appraisals.

These issues included

- ongoing activities within the NHS to implement a framework to make IMRT widely available and the definition of standards as well as expert consensus on the disease areas for the use of IMRT
- the wide variation in hardware, software, techniques, and quality control systems used, which have implications for cost and outcomes and affect the definition of the technology to be appraised

We are therefore suspending these appraisals whilst we consider the next steps. Please be assured that we will update you with further information once we have finalised our discussions.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the project manager for this appraisal, Shaun Minehan ([shaun.minehan@nice.org.uk](mailto:shaun.minehan@nice.org.uk); 0207045 2242).

Kind regards

Dr Elisabeth George

Associate Director - Appraisals