

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

1121– Minimally invasive video-assisted thyroidectomy

Consultation Comments table

IPAC date: Wednesday 11th June 2014

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response
1	Consultee 1: NHS Professional Specialist Adviser	5	Neck haematoma occurs with both open and endoscopic thyroidectomy procedures. The rate of complications have been shown consistently and repeatedly to be comparable and low (~1%). Therefore, haematoma is not a theoretical nor additional adverse effect for this endoscopic (MIVAT) procedure and should not be highlighted. Further, no trocar is used in MIVAT. Therefore, there is no additional risk to the neuro-vascular structures nor trachea/oesophagus. Studies have shown no additional injury to these structures using MIVAT endoscopic procedure. The mention of a 'trocar' suggests this comment was made by someone who has never seen nor performed this procedure. Overall, the safety of the MIVAT procedure has been repeatedly shown to be comparable and safe as open conventional surgery.	Please respond to all comments Thank you for your comment. Section 5.9 of the guidance has been changed.

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2	Consultee 1: NHS Professional Specialist Adviser	6	The eligibility criteria includes clinical and radiological criteria. These should be clearly detailed to allow appropriate referral to the specialist centres/units that offer this technique. As the MIVAT technique is suitable for a minority of patients (approximately 25% of all thyroid surgical patients) and given the additional training required, it is recommended that specialist regional units are established that offer this technique to allow critical number of cases to be performed regularly and to the highest standards.	Please respond to all comments Thank you for your comment. The Interventional Procedures programme at NICE assesses the safety and efficacy of new interventional procedures. The Committee makes recommendations on conditions for the safe use of a procedure including training standards, consent, audit and clinical governance. It does not have a remit to specify the referral criteria.
3	Consultee 1: NHS Professional Specialist Adviser	NOTE	Specialist Advisor	Thank you for your comment.

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