

# Cancer of the upper aero digestive tract: assessment and management in people aged 16 and over Guideline Update

## 1 Background

Cancer of the upper aero digestive tract: assessment and management in people aged 16 and over (NG36) was reviewed in 2017 as part of NICE's routine surveillance programme to decide whether the guideline requires updating.

## 2 Surveillance programme findings

The surveillance programme found that since publication of the guideline, a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funded trial (PET-NECK study) was published which is relevant to NICE's guideline on upper aerodigestive cancer. The results of the PET-NECK study were discussed with topic experts who agreed that this new evidence is practice changing, could impact on the guideline recommendations and agreed that an update was warranted.

## 3 Guideline Update

We are answering the following question:

What is the comparative effectiveness of PET-CT-guided decision making versus planned neck dissection in the management of nodal metastasis in head and neck cancer after chemoradiotherapy

What is the accuracy of PET-CT to diagnose residual nodal disease in people after radiotherapy or chemoradiotherapy?

## 4 Guideline Update process

The guideline update will be produced using an expert guideline Committee. More information about the process can be found here: [Clinical Guidelines](#)

Committee meeting dates:

19<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Consultation dates:

16<sup>th</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Expected publication date:

6<sup>th</sup> June 2018