

Date and Time: Wednesday 16th July 2014

Minutes: Confirmed

Guideline Development Group Meeting 5 – Low back pain

Place: NCGC office, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ

Present:

GDG members

Stephen Ward (SW) - Chair
Babak Arvin (BA) - Neurosurgeon
Ian Bernstein (IB) - General Practitioner
Patrick Hill (PH) - Consultant Clinical Psychologist
Gary MacFarlane (GM) - Chair (clinical) epidemiology
David Walsh (DW) - Honorary Consultant Rheumatologist
Neil O'Connell (NOC) – Physiotherapist
Philip Sell (PS) - Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon
Helen Taylor (HT) - Nurse Specialist
Steven Vogel (SV) – Osteopath
Chris Wells (CW) - Consultant in Pain Medicine
Mark Mason (MM) - Patient/Carer member

NCGC

Ben Pordes (BP) – Project Manager
Lina Gulhane (PM) – Joint Head Information Science
Rhosyn Harris (RH) – Research Fellow
Kate Lovibond (KL) – Senior Health Economist
Qudsia Malik (QM) – Research Fellow
Silvia Rabar (SR) – Senior Research Fellow

Apologies:

Sophia Kemmis Betty (SKB) – Health Economist
Paul Miller (PM) – Senior Information Scientist
Serena Carville (SC) – Associate Director
Simon Somerville (SS) - General Practitioner
Wendy Menon (WM) - Patient/Carer member

In attendance:

NICE Staff:		
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Notes

1. Introduction, apologies and minutes

KL welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from WM, PM, SS, BD and SC. The GDG agreed the minutes from GDG4 as an accurate record.

2. Declaration of interest

New declarations were received from PH and SV who declared personal pecuniary interests. HT declared personal non-pecuniary interests and DW declared a non-personal pecuniary interest.

- PH: Was paid for an article published in Pain Europe on psycho-social impacts of pain management.
- SV: Presented at a conference on Reassurance in back pain, organized by Health Education Seminars.
- HT: Gave a presentation on self-management strategies to the RCN congress
- DW: His department has received a research grant from Pfizer supporting research into pain in rheumatoid arthritis (not low back pain). No drugs being studied that are under consideration by the GDG.

Upon his arrival, the Chair reviewed these and it was determined that all could declare and participate. No other new declarations were received from GDG members and therefore no further action was required.

3. Epidural protocol

The GDG reviewed and made edits to the epidurals protocol. The protocol was signed off as complete.

4. Evidence review: Electrotherapy

SR presented the clinical evidence review of electrotherapy. The GDG discussed the evidence and began drafting recommendations

5. Evidence review: Manual therapies

RH presented the clinical evidence review of manual therapies. KL presented the health economic evidence. The GDG discussed the evidence and began drafting recommendations.

6. Radiofrequency ablation protocol

The GDG reviewed and made edits to the radiofrequency ablation protocol. Due to the lack of agreement on some aspects of the populations and interventions, the GDG agreed to come back to this at a later date.

7. Any other business

None.

Date, time and venue of the next meeting

Thursday/Friday 11th & 12th September 2014, 10:00–16:00 NCGC office, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ