

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 1 September 2015, 10:00-16:00

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

**Minutes:** Confirmed

**Guideline Development Group Meeting 17 – Low back pain and sciatica**

**Present: GDG members**

Stephen Ward (SW) – Chair - Consultant in Pain Medicine, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS trust

Babak Arvin (BA) - Consultant Neurosurgeon, Queens Hospital

Ian Bernstein (IB) - General Practitioner, Gordon House Surgery, London

Suzanne Blowey (SB) - Consultant Nurse Chronic Pain, Mount Gould Hospital, Plymouth

Patrick Hill (PH) – Honorary Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Royal United Hospital, Bath

Mark Mason (MM) – Patient member

Gary MacFarlane (GM) - Chair (clinical) in Epidemiology, University of Aberdeen

Neil O’Connell (NOC) – Lecturer, School of Health Sciences & Social Care Brunel University

Diana Robinson (DR) – Patient member

Simon Somerville (SS) – General Practitioner, Park Medical centre, Leek, Staffordshire

Steven Vogel (SV) – Vice Principal (Research), British School of Osteopathy

David Walsh (DW) – Honorary Consultant Rheumatologist, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**NICE**

Louise Shires (LS) - Programme Manager, NICE

**NCGC**

Serena Carville (SC) – Associate Director, NCGC

Margherita Fanos (MF) – Research Fellow, NCGC

Elisabetta Fenu (EF) - Health Economic Lead, NCGC

Sana Khan (SK) – Research Fellow, NCGC

Qudsia Malik (QM) – Senior Research Fellow, NCGC

Rachel O’Mahony (ROM) – Senior Research Fellow, NCGC

Ben Pordes (BP) – Project Manager, NCGC

**Apologies**

Mikaela Bartlett (MB) – Document Editor / Process Assistant, NCGC

Philip Sell (PS) - Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Chris Wells (CW) - Consultant in Pain Medicine

## Notes

### 1. Introduction and apologies

SW welcomed the group to the seventeenth meeting of this GDG. Apologies were received from MB, PS and CW.

### 2. Declaration of interests

<b>GDG Declarations of Interest</b>			
N.B. The Chair and GDG members were recruited to this guideline using NICE DOI policy published Oct 2008			
<b>Insert initials</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Classification (as per the NICE DOI policy wording*)</b>	<b>Chair's action</b>
SW	Will be attending the Congress of the European Pain Federation on 4 <sup>th</sup> September to moderate a discussion on epidurals. He is receiving no payment.	Personal non-financial non-specific	Declare and participate
GM	Will be attending the Congress of the European Pain Federation (EFIC) on 3 <sup>rd</sup> September. Travel and accommodation paid for by EFIC.	Personal non-financial non-specific	Declare and participate

### 3. Review draft recommendations/LETs from previous meeting

The GDG reviewed the LETR for risk stratification and risk assessment drafted at GDG16. Minor amendments were made and the LETR was signed off.

### 4. Evidence review: Spinal decompression in people with sciatica

SK presented the clinical evidence review for spinal decompression. EF presented the health economics. The GDG discussed the evidence and recommendations.

### 5. Health Economic model: Update

EF presented an update to the health economic model structure. EF will present the results at the next GDG meeting.

### 6. Evidence review: Epidurals in people with sciatica

ROM re-presented the clinical evidence for image-guided epidurals in sciatica. The GDG discussed the evidence.

### 7. Any other business

There was no other business.

### Date, time and venue of the next meeting

Wednesday 2 September, 09:30-15:30, Boardroom, NCGC, 180 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5QZ