

Macular Degeneration Guideline Committee – development

Date: 06/04/2016

Location: NICE offices, Manchester

Minutes: Final

Committee members present:		
Waqaar Shah (Chair)		Present for all items
Katy Barnard (KB)		Present for all items
Jennifer Evans (JE)		Present for all items
Alexander Foss (AF)		Present for all items
Mary Freeman (MF)		Present for all items
Carol McCletchie (CM)		Present for all items
Elizabeth Wick (EW)		Present for all items
Mary-Ann Sherratt (MAS)		Present for all items
Cathy Yelf (CY)		Present for all items

In attendance:		
Yingying Wang (YW)	ICG – Technical Analyst	Present for all items
Chris Gibbons (CG)	ICG – Technical Analyst (HE)	Present for all items
Vonda Murray (VM)	ICG – Project Manager	Present for all items
Dave Nicholls (DN)	NICE – Information Specialist	Present for all items
Joshua Pink (JP)	ICG – Technical Advisor	Present for all items
Sue Spiers (SP)	ICG – Associate Director	Present for part of item 3

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Observers:	
Daniel Davies	NICE – Project Manager
Judith Hughes	PhD student

Apologies:	
Nick Beare	Committee member
Cathie Burke	Committee member
Andy Charley	Committee member
Sue Ellerby	ICG – Clinical Advisor
Caroline Keir	NICE – Guideline Commissioning Manager
Gabriel Rogers	ICG – Technical Advisor (HE)
Ellen Rule	Committee member

1. Introductions, apologies, minutes, DOI and objectives for the meeting

The Chair welcomed the Committee members, attendees and observers to the 6th meeting on age-related macular degeneration (AMD). The committee members, attendees and observers introduced themselves.

Apologies were noted, as recorded above.

The Chair invited each attendee to declare any new conflicts since the previous meeting. The following conflicts were noted;

Attendee	Declaration	Action
Chair	To attend, a retirement event 8th April. Meal to	Declare and participate

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	be paid for by Nicox	
AC	To attend, a retirement event 8th April. Meal to be paid for by Nicox	Declare and participate
MAS	Attended a retirement event, sponsored by a drug company (drug company not known)	Declare and participate
MF	Involved in the LEAVO trial, injecting the drugs (Avastin, Eylea, Lucentis). NHIR funded, no other involvement in the trial	Declare and participate

In the interests of transparency JP informed the committee that his partner works at Novartis as a Health Economist, on macular degeneration topic. It was noted that this does not constitute a conflict of interests under the NICE's policy on conflicts of interest.

Having reviewed all previous and new declarations of interest it was agreed that all committee members were eligible to attend the committee meeting and contribute to the discussions and drafting of any recommendations.

The minutes were reviewed from GComm 5; 25/02/2016. The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record.

The Chair provided a brief overview of the objectives for the day highlighting the information that would be discussed.

2. Review one page classification summary of AMD terminology &

definitions

Discussion by committee, it was agreed that approval would be deferred until the next meeting to allow for NB to participate in the discussion.

VM to add as an agenda item for GComm 7

3. RQ 23 What strategies and tools are useful for monitoring and self-monitoring for people with AMD?

It was highlighted by JP that the evidence being presented today relates only to the second part of the question, 'self-monitoring'. YW provided an overview of the sifting process and presented the included evidence.

The committee discussed the evidence presented and drafted recommendations for self-monitoring of AMD patients, and relevant research recommendations.

4. Cochrane update

An update was provided by CG on the work being carried out by the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group which will support development of a number of review questions for the guideline.

5. Review questions 19 to 22

RQ 19 How often should people with early AMD, intermediate AMD, or advance geographic atrophy be reviewed?

RQ 20 How often should people with early AMD, intermediate AMD, or advance geographic atrophy have their non-affected eye reviewed?

RQ 21 In people with neovascular AMD for whom treatment has been deferred how often should they be reviewed?

RQ 22 How often should people with neovascular AMD have their non-affected eye reviewed?

YW informed the committee that no relevant evidence had been identified and provided an overview of the excluded studies and the reasons for their exclusion.

The committee discussed their own current clinical practice and experience of working across different specialities to make recommendations relating to reviewing patients with AMD. The committee made consensus recommendations and a research recommendation in this area.

6. Editorial feedback

JP reviewed the recommendations made to date, and the editorial feedback received. A number of amendments were made by the committee.

7. Preparation for GComm 7

RQ4, What tools are useful for triage, diagnosis, informing treatment and determining management in people with suspected AMD? (part c late wet AMD)

RQ13 What is the effectiveness of adjunctive therapies for the treatment of neovascular AMD?

RQ17 What are the barriers to appointment attendance and uptake of treatment for people with AMD?

JP provided an overview of what evidence had been identified. The committee discussed the current review protocols and agreed changes to further support identification of appropriate evidence.

8. Protocols

Protocols for the following review questions were discussed and agreed:

RQ10 What is the effectiveness of treatment of neovascular AMD in people presenting with visual acuity better than 6/12?

RQ25 What is the effectiveness of treatment of neovascular AMD in people presenting with visual acuity worse than 6/96?

Action - JP to discuss the review protocols with NB

7. AOB

The Chair reminded the committee of their responsibilities with regards to confidentiality relating to the development of the guideline.

The Chair informed the committee that he had found NICE's Health Economics workshop useful, and recommended it to committee members who had not yet attended.

Health economics training in London dates are;

- 17th May
- 27th July
- 28th Sept
- 30th Nov

Action – Although normally held in London any committee members who would like to attend a health economics workshop in Manchester should email VM and, if there is enough demand, we will

try and arrange a date.

8. Summary and next steps

The Chair thanked the committee for their time and contribution to the meeting. The venue, date and time of the next meeting was confirmed.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 24th May 2016

Wednesday 25th May 2016

Location of next meeting: NICE offices, London