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National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

## **Structural neuroimaging in first episode psychosis**

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Royal College of Nursing

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### **Introduction**

With a membership of over 395,000 registered nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students, health care assistants and nurse cadets, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the voice of nursing across the UK and the largest professional union of nursing staff in the world. RCN members work in a variety of hospital and community settings in the NHS and the independent sector. The RCN promotes patient and nursing interests on a wide range of issues by working closely with the Government, the UK parliaments and other national and European political institutions, trade unions, professional bodies and voluntary organisations.

### **Appraisal Consultation Document**

The Royal College of Nursing welcomes the opportunity to review the Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) of the technology appraisal of the use of Structural neuroimaging in first episode psychosis.

The ACD is comprehensive and in our view, the relevant evidence has been taken into account in coming to the recommendations.

We consider that the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness are reasonable interpretations of the evidence and that the preliminary views on the resource impact and implications for the NHS seem appropriate.

The provisional recommendations of the Appraisal Committee seem sound. However we wondered whether the wording of item 1.1 should qualify that the first episode of psychosis could occur with the absence of any other signs/symptoms

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suggestive of other pathology where MRI/CT would be appropriate. It maybe that this point has been addressed in other NICE guidance (for example CT scanning for Stroke), but it would be helpful to clarify for this guidance.