

20 November 2006

Dear Consultees and Commentator

Health Technology Appraisal

Alendronate, etidronate, risedronate, raloxifene and strontium ranelate for the primary prevention of osteoporotic fragility fractures in postmenopausal women

As you are aware, the Appraisal Committee met to consider this appraisal on Wednesday 1 November 2006. At this meeting the Committee discussed the responses to the consultation on the Appraisal Consultation Document. A large amount of information was provided in these responses, and we are grateful for all of the comments we have received. As a result of these comments the Institute has decided to discuss the emerging recommendations of the Appraisal Committee with the Guideline Development Group (GDG).

As a consequence the finalisation of the Final Appraisal Determination has been postponed to the first meeting of the Appraisal Committee in 2007 which is planned for February 7.

I know that you will be disappointed in this further extension of the timeline for this appraisal, but I hope you agree that the way forward outlined above will enable the development of a complete set of guidance which in the end will be more appropriate for the NHS.

Thank you again for your input into this appraisal; if you have any questions or queries, please contact Mr Reetan Patel, Technology Appraisal Project Manager (email: reetan.patel@nice.org.uk or ☎ 020 7067 5946).

Yours sincerely

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