

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

Clinical Standards | Science & Research Department

NICE Aripiprazole for the treatment of schizophrenia in people aged 15-17

Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD)

RCPCH response

With thanks to:

- Joint RCPCH/NPPG Medicines Committee
 - [REDACTED], Paediatric Pharmacist
 - [REDACTED], Paediatric Pharmacist
- [REDACTED], Consultant Child Psychiatrist

Section number	Comments
General	The conclusion seems justified by the evidence, or rather the lack of it.
General	<p>Our concern as clinicians is that the NICE recommendation will be taken to mean that aripiprazole should not be used at all in adolescent psychosis, whereas the body of the document seems to indicate that it could take its place as one of the three antipsychotics to be used before clozapine is considered: in other words, it could be considered as a suitable second or third choice, depending on the clinical circumstances.</p> <p>This view, which at present is hidden in the body of the report, should be included in the conclusion.</p>
General	We note there is effective use of this preparation down to the age of 13 and there is nothing to distinguish the use from 15-17 to that in adults.
General / 1.3	We note that the appraisal is rather conservative (e.g. section 1.3 requesting comparison with placebo).
pp 36-38	We note that there does not appear to be a great deal of psychiatric expertise on the Appraisal Committee.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email on [REDACTED] or by telephone on [REDACTED].

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Clinical Standards | Science & Research Division
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health