Advice on Health Technologies

Quarterly Bulletin | January 2024

What is the purpose of this bulletin?

This bulletin lists advice and guidance on health technologies published in October to December 2023 by the Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG) and recent health technology assessments (HTAs) undertaken by other HTA agencies across the UK, Ireland and Europe. It is produced by SHTG to support decision making on the use of health technologies within NHSScotland. You can find out more about the work of SHTG on our website.

What is a health technology?

A health technology is an intervention, product or service developed to prevent, diagnose, or treat medical conditions; promote health; provide rehabilitation; or organise healthcare delivery. The health technology could be a test, device, procedure, or patient pathway.

What areas of work are covered this quarter?

- Blood and immune system
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular system
- Caring for older people
- Covid-19
- Digestive system
- Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic
- Health service organisation and delivery
- Infectious disease
- Mental and behavioural disorders
- Musculoskeletal system
- Obstetrics and gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Physical disability
- Public health
- Respiratory system

Advice and guidance is ordered by area of work or specialty, the full list is at the end of this document.

What advice is NHSScotland required to consider?

The advice and guidance NHSScotland is required to consider is highlighted in the 'Status' column in the table below.

What next?

Where a technology assessment is relevant to current policy, planning and clinical decisions within NHSScotland and you would like to discuss its application, please email SHTG. If you would like to refer a technology for assessment, please use this request form.

Area of work/ Speciality	Technology Assessment	Agency/ Product	Date Published / Uploaded	Status in Scotland
Blood and immune system	IPG779 Middle meningeal artery embolisation for chronic subdural haematomas	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	Health technology assessment of the addition of spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) to the National Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme	HIQA Full HTA	November 2023	For information only
Cancer	TER503 Permanent implant brachytherapy devices for unresectable pancreatic cancer	HTW Topic Exploration Report	December 2023	For information only
	TER437 Clinical decision support software with integrated AI for the management of patients with incidental pulmonary nodules identified on chest CT scans (Optellum Virtual Node Clinic)	HTW Topic Exploration Report	December 2023	For information only
	Capsule sponge technologies for the detection of Barrett's oesophagus and early-stage oesophageal cancer	SHTG Assessment	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	Tumour profiling tests to guide adjuvant chemotherapy decisions for patients with early breast cancer	SHTG Recommendation	October 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	The staging of primary prostate cancer and the restaging of recurrent prostate cancer: Evidence synthesis to support a generic justification decision	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	December 2023	For information only
	Ultra-hypofractionated adjuvant radiotherapy for breast cancer: evidence synthesis to support a generic justification decision	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	November 2023	For information only
Cardiovascular System	GUI052 Percutaneous implantation of pulmonary artery pressure sensors	HTW Guidance	December 2023	For information only

Area of work/ Speciality	Technology Assessment	Agency/ Product	Date Published / Uploaded	Status in Scotland
	EAR042 Radiofrequency renal denervation to treat people with resistant hypertension	HTW Evidence Appraisal Report	December 2023	For information only
	IPG778 Percutaneous thrombectomy for intermediate-risk or high-risk pulmonary embolism	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	IPG777 Percutaneous transarterial carotid artery stent placement for asymptomatic extracranial carotid stenosis	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	IPG773 Percutaneous deep venous arterialisation for chronic limb-threatening ischaemia	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	October 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Caring for older people	The cost-effectiveness of the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit	SHTG Assessment	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
COVID-19	Technology-Enabled Theatre Scheduling Systems	SHTG Assessment	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Digestive system	TER507 Automated pH testing to verify placement of nasogastric feeding tubes	HTW Topic Exploration Report	December 2023	For information only
	Capsule sponge technologies for the detection of Barrett's oesophagus and early stage oesophageal cancer	SHTG Assessment	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Endocrine, Nutritional, and Metabolic	TER503 Permanent implant brachytherapy devices for unresectable pancreatic cancer	HTW Topic Exploration Report	December 2023	For information only
	HTE14 Digital technologies for delivering specialist weight-management services to manage weight-management medicine: early value assessment	NICE Health Technology Evaluation	October 2023	For information only
	Digital prevention programme for people at risk of developing type 2 diabetes	SHTG Assessment	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Health service organisation and delivery	HTE13 Virtual ward platform technologies for acute respiratory infections	NICE Health technology evaluation	October 2023	For information only

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	Technology-Enabled Theatre Scheduling Systems	SHTG Assessment	December 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	The cost-effectiveness of the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit	SHTG Assessment	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	Priorities for the north imaging alliance	SHTG Assessment	October 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Infectious disease	Overview of multiplex antigen near-patient tests for acute respiratory infections	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	October 2023	For information only
Mental and behavioural disorders	GUI050 Solution-focused assessment tools for improving the treatment of people with severe mental illness within secondary mental health services	HTW Guidance	December 2023	For information only
	HTE15 Virtual reality technologies for treating agoraphobia or agoraphobic avoidance: early value assessment	NICE Health technology evaluation	November 2023	For information only
Musculoskeletal system	IPG775 Biodegradable subacromial spacer insertion for rotator cuff tears	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	The cost-effectiveness of the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit	SHTG Assessment	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
Obstetrics and gynaecology	IPG774 Vaginal transluminal endoscopic hysterectomy and adnexal surgery for benign gynaecological conditions	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	October 2023	NHSScotland required to consider

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Paediatrics	Health technology assessment of the addition of spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) to the National Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme	HIQA Full HTA	November 2023	For information only
Physical disability	GUI014-2 Multi-grip myoelectric upper-limb prosthetics	HTW Guidance	November 2023	For information only
Public health	An overview of national approaches to stockpiling of medical countermeasures for public health emergencies	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	November 2023	For information only
	Overview of multiplex antigen near-patient tests for acute respiratory infections	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	October 2023	For information only
	Review of national public health strategies in selected countries	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	October 2023	For information only
Respiratory system	TER437 Clinical decision support software with integrated AI for the management of patients with incidental pulmonary nodules identified on chest CT scans (Optellum Virtual Node Clinic)	HTW Topic Exploration Report	December 2023	For information only
	IPG776 Extracorporeal carbon dioxide removal for acute respiratory failure	NICE Interventional procedures guidance	November 2023	NHSScotland required to consider
	HTE13 Virtual ward platform technologies for acute respiratory infections	NICE Health technology evaluation	October 2023	For information only
	Overview of multiplex antigen near-patient tests for acute respiratory infections	HIQA Other Evidence Synthesis	October 2023	For information only

Acknowledgements

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Glossary

NICE Interventional Procedures Guidance: covers procedures used for diagnosis or treatment, considers if they are safe and work well enough for wider use in NHS England, Scotland or Wales

HTW Topic Exploration Report: designed to provide a high-level briefing on new topics submitted for consideration in Wales.

NICE Health Technology Evaluation: rapid assessment of digital products, devices and diagnostics (also known as Early Value Assessment, or EVA). Provides guidance on value of a technology and recommendations for use whilst further evidence is generated.

NICE Diagnostics Guidance: evaluates new, innovative diagnostic technologies. It includes all types of measurements and tests that are used to evaluate a patient's condition.

Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Advice: summarises clinical and cost-effectiveness evidence and implications for the health technology in Ireland

HTW Guidance: summarises clinical- and cost-effectiveness evidence and implications for the health technology in Wales

SHTG Assessment: bespoke reviews of health technologies to inform policy and practice across NHS Scotland