

From the Chief Medical Officer
Dr Michael McBride



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

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Circular HSC (SQSD) (NICE) 15/09 CG 67

Chief Executives of HSS Boards – **for distribution to:**

Directors of Public Health
Directors of Nursing
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services
Directors of Primary Care – for cascade to prescribing and GP
Advisors

Chief Executives of HSC Trusts – **for distribution to:**

Medical Directors – for cascade to relevant staff
Directors of Nursing – for cascade to relevant staff
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services – for cascade to relevant
staff

Date: 5 February 2009

General Practitioners

HSC Clinical and Social Governance Leads

Chief Executives of HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs

For Information

Chairs of HSS Boards
Chairs of HSC Trusts
Chief Executive, Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Chief Officers HSC Councils
Chief Executive/Postgraduate Dean, NIMDTA
Chief Executive, NIPPET
Chief Executive, NIPEC
Chief Executive, RMSC

Dear Colleagues

Clinical Guideline No 67 – Lipid Modification - Cardiovascular risk assessment and the modification of blood lipids for the primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease

This guideline covers:

- Adults at higher risk of heart disease, stroke or peripheral arterial disease (cardiovascular disease). Risk of cardiovascular disease increases with age, as well as in people who smoke or who have high blood pressure or high cholesterol. People

with heart disease in the family or men with a South Asian (for example, Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi) background are also at higher risk.

- People who have already had a heart attack, stroke or 'mini-stroke' (transient ischaemic attack or (TIA)).
- People who have angina or some other forms of cardiovascular disease.

The guideline doesn't cover everyone who is at increased risk of cardiovascular disease. This guideline does not include people with diabetes, those with major genetic causes of high cholesterol (familial hypercholesterolaemia) or people with chronic kidney disease, who are also at higher risk.

DHSSPS advises that this guidance is valid for Northern Ireland and endorses it for implementation in HSC. The NICE guideline supersedes and replaces all previous guidance.

The full NICE clinical guideline is available for download at:

<http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG67>

The HSC sector also should note that;

1. The Department expects HSC organisations to take account of this guidance in the planning and delivery of services to patients at risk or have already had heart disease, stroke or peripheral arterial disease (cardiovascular disease).
2. This advice does not override or replace the individual responsibility of health professionals to make appropriate decisions in the circumstances of their individual patients, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer. This would, for example, include situations where individual patients have other conditions or complications that need to be taken into account in determining whether the NICE guidance is fully appropriate in their case.
3. This guideline will be reviewed by NICE as and when required.
4. NICE has developed tools to help organisations implement this guidance. These are available at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG67> and include costing tools, implementation advice and audit criteria to monitor local practice.
5. NICE has developed related guidance as follows
 - Hypertension (CG34) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG34>
 - Obesity (CG43) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG43>
 - Four commonly used methods to increase physical activity for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byID&o=11373>
 - Cardiovascular disease – statins (TA94) <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byID&o=11564>
 - Diabetes type 2 (update) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG66>
 - MI secondary prevention (CG 48) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG48>
 - Smoking cessation (TA123) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/TA123>

- Hypercholesterolemia (TA132) for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/TA132>
- Brief interventions and referral for smoking cessation for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byID&o=11375>
- Smoking cessation services for download at <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byID&o=11925>
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All NICE guidance endorsed by the Department to date can be accessed on the DHSSPS website at:

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/sqsd-guidance-nice-guidance>

Circular HSS (PPMD) (NICE) 01/006 issued on 30 June 2006 provides further information on the Northern Ireland process for reviewing NICE guidance and further details on the local status of the Institute's guidance. This circular can be accessed at:

http://dhsspsni.gov.uk/nice_guidance_01-06.pdf



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