

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

**Poustie, Resydënter Heisin
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Circular HSC (SQSD) (NICE) 18/09 CG 72

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: 2 March 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, NICPPET
Chief Executive, NIPEC
Chief Executive, RMSC

Dear Colleagues

Clinical Guideline No 72 – Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

The advice in the NICE guideline covers:

- the care, treatment and support that children, young people and adults with ADHD should be offered
- how families and carers can support people with ADHD.

It does not specifically look at:

- the treatment of children younger than 3 years
- the treatment of conditions other than ADHD.

DHSSPS advises that this guidance is valid for Northern Ireland and endorses it for implementation in HSC.

The full NICE clinical guideline is available for download at:
<http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG72>

The HSC sector also should note that;

1. The Department expects the HSC sector to take account of this guidance in their delivery of services to patients who are diagnosed with ADHD;
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. NICE has developed tools to help organisations implement this guidance. These are available at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG72> and include costing tools, implementation advice and audit criteria to monitor local practice;
4. This guidance will be updated by NICE as required.
5. NICE has published related guidance as follows:

Drug misuse: psychosocial interventions. NICE clinical guideline 51 (2007). Available for download at: www.nice.org.uk/CG051

Parent-training/education programmes in the management of children with conduct disorders. NICE technology appraisal guidance 102 (2006). Available for download at: www.nice.org.uk/TA102

Methylphenidate, atomoxetine and dexamfetamine for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children and adolescents (review of technology appraisal 13). NICE technology appraisal guidance 98 (2006). Available for download at: www.nice.org.uk/TA098

6. NICE is developing the following related guidance (details available from www.nice.org.uk):

Antisocial personality disorder: treatment, management and prevention. NICE clinical guideline (publication expected January 2009).

Borderline personality disorder: treatment and management. NICE clinical guideline (publication expected January 2009).

All NICE guidance endorsed by the Department to date can be accessed on the DHSSPS website at:

[Safety, Quality and Standards | NICE Guidance | DHSSPS\(NI\)](#)

Circular HSS (PPMD) (NICE) 01/06 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael McBride". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DR MICHAEL MCBRIDE
Chief Medical Officer