

From the Acting Chief Medical Officer  
**Dr Paddy Woods**



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

[www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta  
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydënter Heisin  
an Fowk Siccar**

**Circular HSC (SQSD) (NICE) 37/09 CG 71**

**Circular Reference: HSC (SQSD) (NICE) 37/2009**

**Subject: Clinical Guideline No 71 – Familial  
Hypercholesterolaemia**

**Date of Issue: 10 July 2009**

**For action by:**

Chief Executives of HSC Board – **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

General Practitioners

HSC Clinical and Social Governance Leads

Chief Executives of HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs

**For Information to:**

Chair of HSC Board  
Chief Executive Public Health Agency  
Director of Public Health, Public Health Agency  
Director of Nursing, Public Health Agency  
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

**Summary of Contents:**

The advice in the NICE clinical guideline covers the care and treatment of adults and children/young people with familial hypercholesterolaemia (a specific type of inherited high cholesterol that runs in the family). It does not cover other forms of hypercholesterolaemia that are not genetic (inherited) or that are due to other genetic conditions.

**Enquiries:**

Any enquiries about the content of this Circular should be addressed to:

Standards & Guidelines Unit  
DHSSPS  
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[SGU-NICEGuidance@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:SGU-NICEGuidance@dhsspsni.gov.uk)

**Related documents:**

See bullet point 5 below

**Superseded documents**

**Status of Contents:**

Action

**Implementation:**

**Additional copies:**

Available to download from

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/phealth/sqs/sqsd-guidance.htm>

**Dear Colleagues**

## **Clinical Guideline No 71 – Familial Hypercholesterolaemia**

The advice in the NICE guideline covers the care and treatment of adults and children/young people with familial hypercholesterolaemia (a specific type of inherited high cholesterol that runs in the family).

It does not cover other forms of hypercholesterolaemia that are not genetic (inherited) or that are due to other genetic conditions.

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://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG71>

The HSC sector also should note that;

1. The Department expects the HSC sector to take account of this guidance in the planning and delivery of services to patients with from Familial Hypercholesterolaemia.
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 guidance is expected to be considered for review by NICE in August 2011.
4. NICE has developed tools to help organisations implement this guidance. These are available at <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG71> and include costing tools, implementation advice and audit criteria to monitor local practice.
5. NICE has published related guidance as follows:

Lipid modification: cardiovascular risk assessment and the modification of blood lipids for the primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease. NICE clinical guideline 67 (2008). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/CG067](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG067)

MI: secondary prevention. Secondary prevention in primary and secondary care for patients following a myocardial infarction. NICE clinical guideline 48 (2007). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/CG048](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG048)

Obesity: guidance on the prevention, identification, assessment and management of overweight and obesity in adults and children. NICE clinical guideline 43 (2006). Available for download at: [www.nice.org.uk/CG043](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG043)

Long-acting reversible contraception. NICE clinical guideline 30 (2005). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/CG030](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG030)

Ezetimibe for the treatment of primary (heterozygous-familial and non-familial) hypercholesterolaemia. NICE technology appraisal guidance 132 (2007). Available

for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/TA132](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA132)

Varenicline for smoking cessation. NICE technology appraisal guidance 123 (2007). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/TA123](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA123)

Statins for the prevention of cardiovascular events. NICE technology appraisal guidance 94 (2006). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/TA094](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA094)

Guidance on the use of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) and bupropion for smoking cessation. NICE technology appraisal guidance 39 (2002). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/TA039](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA039)

Brief interventions and referral for smoking cessation in primary care and other settings. NICE public health intervention guidance 1 (2006). Available for download at : [www.nice.org.uk/PHI001](http://www.nice.org.uk/PHI001)

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](http://dhsspsni.gov.uk/nice_guidance_01-06.pdf)



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