

Advice on Health Technologies

Quarterly Bulletin | July 2020

Update on the Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)

In line with Healthcare Improvement Scotland's decision to suspend many of its operational activities to ensure resources and expertise could be deployed to help combat coronavirus (COVID-19), SHTG postponed its work programme in March 2020.

To support the organisational response to COVID-19, we worked closely with partner organisations to provide [rapid evidence reviews on COVID-19 technologies](#) and technology briefings/triage for innovation partners.

As our work programme resumes, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to discuss a technology assessment. Our referral form can be found [on the Healthcare Improvement Scotland website](#).

What is the purpose of this bulletin?

This bulletin lists advice and guidance on health technologies published in April–June 2020 by SHTG, including recent technology assessments undertaken by other HTA agencies across Europe, UK and Ireland and Europe. It is produced by the SHTG to support decision making on the use of health technologies within NHS Scotland.

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 specialties are covered this quarter?

Cardiothoracic surgery	2	Gastroenterology	3
Trauma and orthopaedics	2	Infectious diseases	4
Urology	2	Intensive care medicine	4
Clinical genetics	3	Medical microbiology	4
Clinical haematology	3	Neurology	4
Clinical immunology	3	Respiratory medicine	4
Emergency Medicine	3	Clinical oncology	5
Endocrinology	3		

Advice and guidance is ordered by specialty, in line with [NHS categorisation](#).

What advice is NHS Scotland required to consider?

The advice and guidance NHS Scotland is **required to consider** is highlighted in the 'Status' column below.

What next?

- If any of the technology assessments listed are of relevance to current policy, planning and clinical decisions within NHSScotland and you would like to discuss their application within NHSScotland, please [contact SHTG](#).

Surgical Specialties

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Cardiothoracic surgery	Endobronchial valve implantation for treatment of emphysema <i>Requested by: PulmonX International (Zephyr® device manufacturer)</i>	SHTG Recommendation ¹	In progress (Oct 2020)	NHSScotland required to consider	No link
	Archimedes for biopsy of suspected lung cancer	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Medtech Innovation briefing 211 ²	June 2020	For information only	Link here
	Intravascular lithotripsy for calcified coronary arteries during percutaneous coronary intervention	NICE Interventional procedures guidance 673 ³	June 2020	NHSScotland required to consider	Link here
Trauma and orthopaedics	HemaClear exsanguination tourniquet to provide a bloodless surgical field during limb surgery	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	April 2020	For information only	Link here
Urology	Rezum for treating lower urinary tract symptoms secondary to benign prostatic hyperplasia	NICE Medical Technologies Guidance 49 ⁵	June 2020	For information only	Link here

¹**Recommendation - Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** - developed by a national committee in consultation with stakeholders. Clinical effectiveness, safety, cost effectiveness, patient and public views, professional expert views, and social and organisational implications are considered

²**Medtech Innovation Briefing - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)** – Briefings offer support for NHS England when considering using new medical devices and other medical or diagnostic technologies.

³**Interventional Procedures Guidance - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)** - 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.

⁴**Topic Exploration Report - Health Technology Wales (HTW)** - designed to provide a high-level briefing on new topics submitted for consideration to HTW

⁵**Medical Technologies Guidance - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)** - evaluates new, innovative medical devices and diagnostics for NHS England.

Medical Specialties

Speciality	Technology Assessment	Agency/ Product	Published	Status in NHS Wales	Link
Clinical genetics	Pharmacogenomics/ dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase gene testing prior to selected cancer treatment <i>Requested by: National Specialist & Screening Directorate</i>	SHTG Assessment ⁶	In progress (Sept 2020)	For information only	Link here
Clinical haematology	Convalescent plasma therapy for patients with COVID-19	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Convalescent plasma: a costing review	HTW Costing review ⁷			Link here
Clinical immunology	Cytokine adsorbers for the treatment of cytokine storm in people with severe coronavirus infection	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴ Included in NICE Medtech Innovation Briefing 217 ²	April 2020	For information only	Link here and link here
Emergency Medicine	Lifelight First for monitoring vital signs	NICE Medtech Innovation briefings ²	April 2020	For information only	Link here
Endocrinology	Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Pregnancy <i>Requested by: Scottish Diabetes Group</i>	SHTG Scottish Adaptation ⁸ of HTW Guidance ⁹	In progress (Oct 2020)	NHSScotland required to consider	No link
	Remote monitoring of blood glucose in women with gestational diabetes	HTW Evidence Appraisal Review ¹⁰	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Actim Pancreatitis for diagnosing acute pancreatitis	NICE Medtech Innovation Briefing 218 ²	June 2020	For information only	Link here
Gastroenterology	Colon capsule endoscopy/SCOTCAP <i>Requested by: NHS National Services Scotland</i>	SHTG Recommendation ¹	August 2020	NHSScotland required to consider	Link here
	FibroScan for assessing liver fibrosis and cirrhosis in primary care	NICE Medtech Innovation Briefing 216 ²	June 2020	For information only	Link here

⁶ **Assessment - Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** - Bespoke reviews of health technologies to inform policy and practice across NHSScotland.

⁷ **Costing review - Health Technology Wales (HTW)** - economic evaluation conducted for NHS Wales

⁸ **Scottish Adaptation - Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** – considers applicability to NHSScotland of an HTA conducted elsewhere in the UK or internationally.

⁹ **Guidance - Health Technology Wales (HTW)** – summarises evidence and implications for the health technology in Wales

¹⁰ **Evidence Appraisal Review - Health Technology Wales (HTW)** - report of the evidence for a topic of interest to NHS Wales, but no guidance

Infectious diseases	Hydrogen peroxide vapour to reprocess single-use personal protective equipment	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Safety of personal protective equipment gowns for health and social care workers	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Safety of personal protective equipment gowns for health and social care workers	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Effectiveness of tests that detect SARS-CoV-2 virus or antibodies to SARS-CoV-2, to inform COVID-19 diagnosis Produced for Welsh Government, and Health and Social Care in Wales	HTW rapid review ¹¹	May 2020	For information only	Link here
Intensive care medicine	Tests to help assess risk of acute kidney injury for people being considered for critical care admission (ARCHITECT and Alinity i Urine NGAL assays, BioPorto NGAL test and NephroCheck test)	NICE Diagnostics guidance 39 ¹²	June 2020	For information only	Link here
Medical microbiology	MolecuLight i:X for wound imaging	NICE Medtech Innovation Briefing 212 ²	June 2020	For information only	Link here
Neurology	Hypoglossal nerve stimulation systems for treatment of obstructive sleep apnoea	EUnetHTA Collaborative Assessment ¹³	June 2020	For information only	Link here
	gammaCore for cluster headache	SHTG Scottish Adaptation ⁸ of NICE medical technologies guidance ⁵	In progress (Oct 2020)	NHSScotland required to consider	No link
Respiratory medicine	myCOPD for self-management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	NICE Medtech Innovation briefings ²	April 2020	For information only	Link here
	Cytokine adsorption devices for treating respiratory failure in people with COVID-19	NICE Medtech Innovation briefing 217 ² including HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here And link here
	PneuX to prevent ventilator-associated pneumonia	NICE Medical Technologies Guidance ⁵	April 2020	For information only	Link here
	Point-of-care lung ultrasound imaging for suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	June 2020	For information only	Link here
	Oximetry to guide COVID-19 management	HTW Rapid Review ¹¹	June 2020	For information only	Link here

¹¹ **Rapid Review - Health Technology Wales (HTW)** - provide a balanced overview of the evidence base, but are not underpinned by exhaustive literature searches due to the short timescales in which they are produced

¹² **Diagnostic guidance - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)** - evaluates new, innovative diagnostic technologies. It includes all types of measurements and tests that are used to evaluate a patient's condition.

¹³ **Collaborative Assessment - European Network for Health Technology Assessment (EUnetHTA)** - assessments produced by an EU collaborative HTA programme of which SHTG is a member.

Radiology

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Clinical oncology	Rectum spacers (i.e. spaceOAR) to reduce toxicity during radiotherapy for prostate cancer	EUnetHTA Collaborative Assessment ¹³	In progress (June/July 2020)	For information only	Link here
	Strategic investment in MRI Simulators for radiotherapy services in Scotland <i>Requested by: National Radiotherapy Technical, Specification and Evaluation Group (TSE)</i>	SHTG Assessment ⁶	May 2020	For information only	Link here

Psychiatry

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency/ Product	Published	Status in Scotland/Wales	Link
Psychiatry	Space from Depression for treating adults with depression	NICE Medtech Innovation briefings ²	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Virtual reality as a tool to facilitate virtual group therapy support clinics or group psychological support	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	June 2020	For information only	Link here

Other

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency/ Product	Published	Status in Scotland/Wales	Link
Other	Knowledge-based clinical decision support systems <i>Requested by: Scottish Government</i>	SHTG Assessment ⁶	April 2020	For information only	Link here
	Virtual reality for exercise plan management	HTW Topic Exploration Report ⁴	May 2020	For information only	Link here
	Virtual reality therapy for the management of procedure-related pain	HTW Evidence Appraisal Review ¹⁰	May 2020	For information only	Link here

Acknowledgements

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