

Advice on Health Technologies

Quarterly Bulletin | April 2021

What is the purpose of this bulletin?

This bulletin lists advice and guidance on health technologies published in January - March 2021 by the Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG), and also recent technology assessments 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 the [Healthcare Improvement Scotland 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 specialties are covered this quarter?

Oncology	2	Respiratory	4
Urology	2	Neurology	4
Surgical - other	2	Medical - other	4
Cardiology	3	Medical psychotherapy	5
Endocrinology and Diabetes	3	Diagnostic Imaging	5
Gastroenterology	3	Radiology - other (Artificial Intelligence)	5
Gynaecology	3		
Renal	4		

Advice and guidance is ordered by specialty, categorisation [follows the main specialties listed here](#).












What advice is NHSScotland required to consider?

The advice and guidance NHS Scotland is **required to consider** is highlighted in the 'Status' column 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](#).

Surgical Specialties

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Oncology	Cytoreduction surgery with hyperthermic intraoperative peritoneal chemotherapy for peritoneal carcinomatosis	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	March 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	URO17 for detecting bladder cancer	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
	Next generation sequencing for DLBCL classification (HTG EdgeSeq DLBCL Cell of Origin Assay)	HTW Topic Exploration report ³	March 2021	For information	
Orthopaedic	The STAK tool for preventing and treating knee stiffness	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
Urology	Optilume for anterior urethral strictures	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information	
	The PLASMA system for transurethral resection and haemostasis of the prostate	NICE Medical technologies guidance ⁴	January 2021	For information	
Surgical - other	Free-functioning gracilis transfer to restore upper limb function in brachial plexus injury Interventional procedures guidance	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	March 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	PROPEL sinus implants for maintaining sinus patency after surgery	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
	Self-expanding implant insertion into the intersphincteric space for faecal incontinence	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	January 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	Leukomed Sorbact for preventing surgical site infection	NICE Medical technologies guidance ⁴	January 2021	For information	
	Accuro for guiding epidural or spinal anaesthesia	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information	










¹ **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. NHS Scotland are required to consider the advice if they are providing the procedure.

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

⁴ **Medical Technologies Guidance - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)** - evaluates new, innovative medical devices and diagnostics for NHS England.

Medical Specialties

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Cardiology	CytoSorb for reducing risk of bleeding during cardiac surgery	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
	AcQMap for mapping the heart atria to target ablation treatment for arrhythmias	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Extended Interval Screening by the Diabetic RetinaScreen Programme in Ireland	HIQA HTA ⁵	February 2021	For information	
Gastroenterology	Danis stent for acute oesophageal variceal bleeding	NICE Medical technologies guidance ⁴	March 2021	For information	
	Faecal microbiota transplant for recurrent or refractory <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> infection	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
Gynaecology	Transcervical ultrasound-guided radiofrequency ablation for symptomatic uterine fibroids	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	March 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	Sonata system for diagnostic imaging and treatment of symptomatic uterine fibroids	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	March 2021	For information	
	Natural cycles for monitoring fertility	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information	
	Minimally invasive radical hysterectomy for early stage cervical cancer	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	January 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	

⁵ **HIQA Health Technology Assessment** – summarises information about a health technology for the health service in the Republic of Ireland






Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Renal	Extracorporeal whole liver perfusion for acute liver failure	NICE interventional procedures guidance ¹	March 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
Respiratory	COPD Support Service: remote and self-management of high-risk patients	SHTG Innovative Medical Technology Overview ⁶	February 2021	For information	
	FebriDx point-of-care test for acute respiratory infection in patients attending Emergency Departments	HTW Topic Exploration report ³	February 2021	For information	
Neurology	Pharyngeal electrical stimulation for neurogenic dysphagia	HTW Topic Exploration report ³	March 2021	For information	
Medical - other	DOAC Dipstick for detecting direct oral anticoagulants	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	February 2021	For information	
	Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT)	SHTG Recommendation ⁷	February 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	gammaCore for cluster headache	SHTG Adaption ⁸	January 2021	NHSScotland required to consider	
	The VAC Veraflo Therapy system for acute infected or chronic wounds that are failing to heal	NICE Medical technologies guidance ⁴	January 2021	For information	

⁶ **Innovative Medical Technology Overview – Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** - summarises emerging evidence surrounding new and innovative technologies.




⁷ **SHTG Recommendation** - 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. NHS Scotland are required to consider the recommendation.

⁸ **Adaptation - Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** - Based upon an HTA conducted elsewhere in the UK or internationally, with particular consideration of its applicability to NHS Scotland.

Psychiatry

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Medical psychotherapy	Clinician-guided internet-based psychotherapy compared with face-to-face therapy for people with anxiety or depression	SHTG Assessment ⁹	January 2021	For information only	
	Remote digital delivery of real-time psychotherapy compared with face-to-face therapy for depression or anxiety (including post-traumatic stress disorder)	SHTG Assessment ⁹	January 2021	For information only	
	Alpha-Stim AID for anxiety disorders	NICE Medical technologies guidance ⁴	March 2021	For information only	
	Review of recently published evidence on the relationship between the volume of robotic-assisted surgery (RAS) performed and the outcomes	SHTG Assessment ⁹	February 2021	For information only	
	Psychological interventions aimed at improving the mental health of carers of people with dementia	HTW Topic Exploration report ³	February 2021	For information only	

Radiology

Specialty	Technology Assessment	Agency / Product	Published	Status in Scotland	Link
Diagnostic Imaging	Butterfly iQ+ for diagnostic ultrasound imaging	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	March 2021	For information only	
Radiology - other (Artificial Intelligence)	Artificial intelligence in mammography	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information only	
	Artificial intelligence for analysing chest CT images	NICE Medtech innovation briefings ²	January 2021	For information only	

Acknowledgements

This bulletin was developed by SHTG in collaboration with Health Technology Wales (HTW).

⁹ **Assessment - Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG)** - Bespoke reviews of health technologies to inform policy and practice across NHSScotland.