From the Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Dr Paddy Woods

Circular HSC (SQSD) (NICE CG98) 43/16

Subject: NICE Clinical Guideline CG98 – Jaundice in newborn babies under 28 days - Addendum

For action by:
Chief Executive of HSC Board – for distribution to:
   All HSC Board Directors – for cascade to relevant staff

Director of Integrated Care, HSC Board – for cascade to:
   Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management
   Family Practitioner Services Leads – for cascade to relevant
   Family Practitioner groups

Chief Executive of Public Health Agency – for distribution to:
   Director of Public Health and Medical Director – for cascade
to relevant staff
   Director of Nursing and AHPs – for cascade to relevant staff

Chief Executives of HSC Trusts – for distribution to:
   Medical Directors – for cascade to relevant staff
   Directors of Nursing – for cascade to relevant staff
   Heads of Pharmaceutical Services – for cascade to relevant
   staff
   Directors of Acute Services – for cascade to relevant staff
   HSC Clinical and Social Governance Leads
   Directors of Social Services – for cascade to relevant staff
   Directors of Finance – for cascade to relevant staff
   AHP Leads – for cascade to relevant staff

Chief Executive, Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority – for
cascade to: relevant independent healthcare establishments

Chief Executives of HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs

For Information to:
Chair of HSC Board
Chair of Public Health Agency
Chairs of HSC Trusts
Chair of RQIA
NICE Implementation Facilitator NI
Members of NI NICE Managers’ Forum

Summary of Contents: This guideline covers diagnosing and
treating jaundice, which is caused by increased levels of bilirubin in
the blood, in newborn babies (neonates). It aims to help detect or
prevent very high levels of bilirubin, which can be harmful if not
treated. The addendum to this guidance has added new and
updated recommendations on measuring and monitoring
bilirubin levels and the type of phototherapy to use. (Section
1.4, recommendations 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.8 and 1.4.9).

Enquiries:
Any enquiries about the content of this Circular should be addressed
to:
Quality Regulation and Improvement Unit
DHSSPS
Room D1.4
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3SQ

SGU-NICEGuidance@health-ni.gov.uk

Circular Reference: HSC (SQSD) (NICE CG98) 43/16

Date of Issue: 4 July 2016

Related documents:
HSC (SQSD) 3/13
NICE Clinical Guideline CG98 – Recognition and Treatment of
Neonatal Jaundice

Superseded documents
None

Status of Contents:
Action

Implementation:
As per circular. Generally, Clinical Guidelines should be
implemented within 12 months of endorsement.

Additional copies:
Available to download from
https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/safety-and-quality-
standards/national-institute-health-and-care-excellence-nice

Working for a Healthier People

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
Dear Colleagues

NICE Clinical Guideline CG98 - Jaundice in newborn babies under 28 days - Addendum
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg98

The Department has recently reviewed the above NICE guidance and has formally endorsed it as applicable in Northern Ireland.

The original recommendations in CG98 (endorsed by the Department in May 2012) are already being implemented by the HSC Trusts. This circular and the actions it requires on implementation refer to the additional recommendations set out in the addendum.

In accordance with the process outlined in circular HSC (SQSD) 3/13, the following actions should be taken (https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dhssps/hsc-sqsd-3-13.pdf)

1. HSC Board / PHA
   a. Identify a Professional Lead who will consider the commissioning implications of the Clinical Guideline and co-ordinate with any other relevant commissioning teams. This Lead will identify any areas where regional planning / investment / commissioning are required, or where there is material risk to safety or quality. These will then be actioned immediately through normal commissioning arrangements or through bespoke arrangements reflecting the nature of the issue / risk.
   b. Ensure that relevant guidance is sent to the appropriate Family Practitioners.
   c. Seek positive assurance from the HSC Trusts that the required initial actions have been undertaken within a 3 month period, and that the addendum has been implemented within a further 9 months (unless otherwise notified by the HSC Trusts).
   d. Where significant investment/ commissioning needs cannot be met within the usual timeframe, agree appropriate arrangements with HSC Trusts. Report to DHSSPS as required at 6 monthly accountability meetings.

2. HSC Trusts
   a. Proceed with targeted dissemination, agree a clinical/management lead to coordinate implementation and consider what has to be done to achieve implementation using a risk based assessment and baseline review as appropriate to support planning. These initial actions should be undertaken within a three month period.
   b. Implement the addendum within a further 9 months (apart from any elements where significant issues have been raised with the HSC Board/PHA).
   c. Provide positive assurances to the HSC Board that required initial actions have been taken within the 3 month planning period and that the addendum has been implemented within a further 9 months, where appropriate.
   d. Where significant investment/ commissioning needs cannot be met within the usual timeframe, notify the HSC Board/PHA at the earliest opportunity through the bi-monthly director level meetings and agree appropriate arrangements with them to achieve implementation.

3. RQIA
   a. Disseminate the addendum to the independent sector as appropriate.

4. HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs
   a. Take account of this addendum in training and other developments as appropriate.
To inform the planning process, please find attached details from the Departmental review. You should consider and take account of other relevant Departmental policies and strategies in your planning, as well as any legislative / policy caveats identified in the course of the Departmental review.


Dr Paddy Woods  
Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Appendix 1

**Endorsed NICE guidance - Details from Departmental review**

| Reference Number | NICE Clinical Guideline - CG98  
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Jaundice in newborn babies under 28 days - Addendum</td>
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| Summary of guidance | This guideline was previously called Recognition and Treatment of Neonatal Jaundice.  
|                  | It covers diagnosing and treating jaundice, which is caused by increased levels of bilirubin in the blood, in newborn babies (neonates). It aims to help detect or prevent very high levels of bilirubin, which can be harmful if not treated.  
|                  | The guideline includes recommendations on:  
|                  | • providing information to parents or carers  
|                  | • managing and treating hyperbilirubinaemia  
|                  | • measuring and monitoring bilirubin thresholds before and during phototherapy  
|                  | • assessing babies for underlying disease  
|                  | • caring for babies with prolonged jaundice  
|                  | • using intravenous immunoglobulin, exchange transfusion and other therapies  
|                  | The addendum to this guidance has added new and updated recommendations on measuring and monitoring bilirubin levels and the type of phototherapy to use. (Section 1.4, recommendations 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.8 and 1.4.9). |
| Related strategically relevant DHSSPS/HSC policies | None |
| Inter-Departmental interest | None |
| Legislative / policy caveats | 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. |