

NHS Kent & Medway Medicines Optimisation Group

Recent NICE publications – April 2024

FOR INFORMATION

NICE Publications

NICE clinical guidelines

[Vitamin B12 deficiency in over 16s: diagnosis and management published in March 2024](#)

This guideline covers recognising, diagnosing and managing vitamin B12 deficiency in people aged 16 and over, including deficiency caused by autoimmune gastritis. It also covers monitoring for gastric cancer in people with autoimmune gastritis.

[Meningitis \(bacterial\) and meningococcal disease recognition diagnosis and management published in March 2024](#)

This guideline covers recognising, diagnosing and managing bacterial meningitis and meningococcal disease in babies, children, young people and adults. It aims to reduce death and disability by helping healthcare professionals recognise meningitis and treat it quickly and effectively.

[Ovarian cancer: identifying and managing familial and genetic risk published in March 2024](#)

This guideline covers assessing the familial and genetic risk of having a pathogenic variant associated with ovarian cancer in adults. NICE has also produced a [guideline on the recognition and initial management of ovarian cancer](#).

Updated NICE Clinical Guidelines

[Tuberculosis Updated February 2024](#)

This guideline covers preventing, identifying and managing latent and active tuberculosis (TB) in children, young people and adults. It aims to improve ways of finding people who have TB in the community and recommends that everyone under 65 with latent TB should be treated. It describes how TB services should be organised, including the role of the TB control board. **Fluoroquinolone antibiotics:** In January 2024, the MHRA published a [Drug Safety Update on fluoroquinolone antibiotics](#). These must now only be prescribed when other commonly recommended antibiotics are inappropriate. NICE is assessing the impact of this warning on recommendations in this guideline. In **February 2024**, in the [section on preventing TB](#), NICE removed family history of TB in the past 5 years from the list of criteria for BCG vaccination in neonates in low-incidence areas, to align with the [chapter on tuberculosis in the Green Book](#).

[Lung cancer: diagnosis and management Updated March 2024](#)

This guideline covers diagnosing and managing non-small-cell and small-cell lung cancer. It aims to improve outcomes for patients by ensuring that the most effective tests and treatments are used, and that people have access to suitable palliative care and follow-up.

In **March 2024**, NICE updated the [systemic anti-cancer therapy treatment pathways for advanced non-small-cell lung cancer](#) following the withdrawal of the NICE technology appraisal guidance on mobocertinib. See [update information](#) for more details.

[COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 Updated March 2024](#)

This guideline covers managing COVID-19 in babies, children, young people and adults in community and hospital settings. It includes recommendations on communication, assessment, therapeutics for COVID-19, non-invasive respiratory support, preventing and managing acute complications, and identifying and managing co-infections. NICE has also produced [COVID-19 rapid guidelines on managing long-term effects of COVID-19 \('long COVID'\)](#) and [haematopoietic stem cell transplantation](#).

In **March 2024**, in the [section on therapeutics](#), NICE updated recommendations on nirmaltrevir and retonavir, sotrovimab, casirivimab and imdevimab, and tocilizumab in line with updated NICE technology appraisal guidance on nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir, sotrovimab and tocilizumab for treating COVID-19 (TA878).

[Neonatal infection: antibiotics for prevention and treatment Updated March 2024](#)

This guideline covers preventing bacterial infection in healthy babies of up to and including 28 days corrected gestational age, treating pregnant women whose unborn baby is at risk of infection, and caring for babies of up to and including 28 days corrected gestational age with a suspected or confirmed bacterial infection. It aims to reduce delays in recognising and treating infection and prevent unnecessary use of antibiotics. The guideline does not cover viral infections. In **March 2024**, NICE made new recommendations for newborn babies with suspected or confirmed bacterial meningitis. These recommendations are marked [2024] in the guideline. For more information, see [update information](#).

[Suspected sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management Updated March 2024](#)

This guideline covers the recognition, diagnosis and early management of suspected sepsis. It includes recommendations on recognition and early assessment, initial treatment, escalating care, finding and controlling the source of infection, early monitoring, information and support, and training and education. In **March 2024**, NICE replaced a recommendation on contraindications to lumbar puncture with a link to the [section on lumbar puncture in the updated NICE guideline on bacterial meningitis and meningococcal disease](#).

[Twin and triplet pregnancy Updated March 2024](#)

This guideline covers care for pregnant women and pregnant people with a twin or triplet pregnancy in addition to routine care during pregnancy and labour. It aims to reduce the risk of complications and improve outcomes. It should be read in conjunction with [NICE's guidelines on antenatal care](#), [intrapartum care](#) and [fetal monitoring](#). For information on other related topics, see our [women's and reproductive health summary page](#). In **April 2024**, NICE reviewed the evidence and made new and updated recommendations on screening for and preventing preterm birth.

NICE Quality Standards

No new NICE Quality Standards

Updated NICE Quality Standards

No updated NICE Quality Standards