

NIHR

Clinical and cost effectiveness of endoscopic bipolar radiofrequency ablation for the treatment of malignant biliary obstruction: a systematic review

Primary radiofrequency ablation increases survival and is likely to be cost-effective. Evidence for the impact of secondary radiofrequency ablation on survival and of quality of life is limited.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/YVMN9802/>

The King's Fund

Caring in a complex world: perspectives from unpaid carers and the organisations that support them

Covers England. Based on a literature review and interviews with stakeholders and focus groups. Carers stressed that access to good health and social care for the person they are caring for is vital for their own quality of life. The impacts of ongoing funding issues and the health and social care workforce crises on carers and local support services were highlighted multiple times. To better support unpaid carers locally, commissioners and services need to develop and maintain a good understanding of their populations, build local support offers accordingly, and embed awareness of carers in strategic-level and commissioning decisions. Carers are a hugely diverse group – both in terms of who they are and who they care for – but policy and services do not always reflect this diversity. They play a vital role in co-ordinating the care that is received. To reduce the burden on them, it is important for health and social care systems to be as integrated as possible. There are opportunities to align approaches to supporting unpaid carers at integrated care system (ICS) level as well as place level.

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/unpaid-carers-caring-complex-world>

Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC Advice)

rimegepant (Vydura®)

NOT recommended for the preventive treatment of episodic migraine in adults who have at least four migraine attacks per month.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/rimegepant-vydura-full-smc2567/>

rimegepant (Vydura®)

Accepted for restricted use for the acute treatment of migraine with or without aura in adults.

Restricted to patients who have had inadequate symptom relief after trials of at least two triptans or in whom triptans are contraindicated or not tolerated; and have inadequate pain relief with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and paracetamol.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/rimegepant-vydura-full-smc2521/>

tafasitamab (Minjuvi®)

NOT recommended for use in combination with lenalidomide followed by tafasitamab monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) who are not eligible for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT).

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/tafasitamab-minjuvi-full-smc2522/>

empagliflozin (Jardiance®)

Accepted for use in adults for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (left ventricular ejection fraction [LVEF] >40%).

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/empagliflozin-jardiance-full-smc2523/>

icosapent ethyl (Vazkepa®)

NOT recommended to reduce the risk of cardiovascular events in adult statin-treated patients at high cardiovascular risk with elevated triglycerides (≥ 1.7 mmol/L) and established cardiovascular disease, or diabetes, and at least one other cardiovascular risk factor.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/icosapent-ethyl-vazkepa-full-smc2531/>

Scottish Government

Child poverty pathfinders - early implementation process: evaluation

This report explores the early set-up and implementation of the Child Poverty Pathfinders and uses in-depth qualitative findings to understand what has been working well and what has been working less well during the development stage.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/child-poverty-pathfinders-early-implementation-process-evaluation/>

Tackling child poverty pathfinders: evaluability assessment

An evaluability assessment of the Child Poverty Pathfinders in Glasgow and Dundee was conducted to inform the development of an evaluation plan for the Pathfinder approach.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-pathfinders-evaluability-assessment/>

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) Services in Scotland: Findings from an analysis of surveys issued to NHS Boards in Autumn 2022

This report analyses survey responses from ten NHS Health Boards in Scotland to understand delivery of ME/CFS services, implementation of the updated ME/CFS NICE guidelines, barriers and opportunities to implementing the guidelines, and options for future ME/CFS service development.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/myalgic-encephalomyelitis-chronic-fatigue-syndrome-cfs-services-scotland-findings-analysis-surveys-issued-nhs-boards-autumn-2022/>

Vaping - understanding prevalence and trends among adults and children: research

Analysis of data on vaping from twelve surveys conducted at UK or regional level, with a focus on current use, ever tried, dual use and differences by socio-economic status.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/understanding-prevalence-trends-vaping-adults-children/>

SIGN

Nil

Public Health Scotland

Monitoring racialised health inequalities in Scotland: data and evidence

Provides information on ongoing improvements in ethnicity data collection and analysis to allow routine monitoring of racialised health inequalities across the health and care system. The report focuses on ongoing work within maternity and early years data, updates on an evaluation of the COVID-19 vaccination programme looking at factors affecting vaccine uptake among different ethnic groups, work to refresh the 'Happy to ask, happy to tell' toolkit which seeks to empower health and care professionals to ask data providers about their equality characteristics and describes work to address the significant health inequalities experienced by the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community.

Systematic search: No

May 2023

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/monitoring-racialised-health-inequalities-in-scotland/monitoring-racialised-health-inequalities-in-scotland-30-may-2023/>

NICE – Guidelines

NG232 Head injury: assessment and early management

Covers assessment and early management of head injury in babies, children, young people and adults to ensure that people have the right care, including direct referral to specialist care if needed.

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng232>

NICE - Technology Appraisal Guidance

TA891 Ibrutinib with venetoclax for untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta891>

TA892 Mosunetuzumab for treating relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta892>

TA888 Risankizumab for previously treated moderately to severely active Crohn's disease

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta888>

TA890 Difelikefalin for treating pruritus in people having haemodialysis

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta890>

TA886 Olaparib for adjuvant treatment of BRCA mutation-positive HER2-negative high-risk early breast cancer after chemotherapy

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta886>

TA887 Olaparib for previously treated BRCA mutation-positive hormone-relapsed metastatic prostate cancer

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta887>

TA883 Tafasitamab with lenalidomide for treating relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta883>

TA885 Pembrolizumab plus chemotherapy with or without bevacizumab for persistent, recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta885>

TA882 Voclosporin with mycophenolate mofetil for treating lupus nephritis

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta882>

TA881 Ripretinib for treating advanced gastrointestinal stromal tumour after 3 or more treatments

Systematic search: Limited

May 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta881>

EPPI Centre

Nil

AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality – USA)

Management of Postpartum Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy

Home blood pressure monitoring (HBPM) probably improves ascertainment of BP, allowing early recognition of hypertension in postpartum patients, and probably compensates for racial disparities in office based follow-up. The evidence suggests furosemide may shorten the duration of postpartum HTN. However, further evidence is needed regarding the comparative benefits and harms of the antihypertensive medications used to treat postpartum HTN.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/hypertensive-disorders-pregnancy/research>

Nutrition as Prevention for Improved Cancer Health Outcomes

Although overall RCT evidence focused on a wide range of nutrition interventions, studies were concentrated in use of dietary supplements, nutrition support, and the route or timing of nutrition interventions within gastrointestinal and head and neck cancers in inpatient settings. Among interventions with the highest volume of literature, the majority of studies were rated as high risk of bias. Rigorous new research is needed to bolster the evidence base.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/improved-cancer-outcomes/research>

Health Foundation

Nil

Canadian Agency for drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)

Alternative Therapies to Immunoglobulin for Autoimmune Blistering Diseases

No evidence regarding the clinical effectiveness and safety of alternative treatments to IV immunoglobulin (IVIg) compared to IVIg or placebo for bullous pemphigoid (BP) or pemphigus vulgaris (PV) and pemphigus foliaceus (PF) was found. 6 consensus guidelines presenting treatment algorithms for BP (3 guidelines) or PV and PF (3 guidelines) recommend that IVIg may be used as a third-line treatment for severe or refractory cases. For severe or refractory BP, other therapeutic options than IVIg include monoclonal antibodies, immunosuppressive drugs, immunoabsorption, and plasma exchange (3 guidelines). For severe or refractory PV and PF, other therapeutic options than IVIg include immunosuppressive drugs, dapsone, immunoabsorption, plasma exchange, and IV corticosteroid pulse therapy (3 guidelines). The evidence base supporting these guidelines was unclear and recommendations should be interpreted with caution.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/alternative-therapies-immunoglobulin-autoimmune-blistering-diseases>

Chloroprocaine for Spinal or Epidural Anesthesia

Compared to alternative local anesthetic drugs, chloroprocaine may result in a shorter or equal onset of sensory and motor blocks and recovery from sensory and motor blocks. Compared to alternative local anesthetic drugs, chloroprocaine has a shorter time to unaided ambulation, time to independent urination, and time to discharge. Chloroprocaine may have better or equal clinical effectiveness than alternative drugs for spinal or epidural local anesthesia. Compared to alternative local anesthetic drugs, chloroprocaine may cause higher rates of adverse events but due to inconsistency in evidence, it is difficult to draw firm conclusions.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/chloroprocaine-spinal-or-epidural-anesthesia>

Bevacizumab for Recurrent Platinum-Sensitive Ovarian Cancer

It was not clear whether bevacizumab plus chemotherapy does or does not improve overall survival compared to chemotherapy alone (or with placebo) for recurrent platinum-sensitive ovarian cancer. Most studies found that bevacizumab plus chemotherapy results in longer progression-free survival than chemotherapy alone (or with placebo) for recurrent platinum-sensitive ovarian cancer. Most studies found that bevacizumab plus chemotherapy had a more beneficial effect on treatment

response than chemotherapy alone (or with placebo) for recurrent platinum-sensitive ovarian cancer. There was no difference in quality of life, based on one RCT, and no clear differences in adverse events reported between bevacizumab plus chemotherapy or chemotherapy alone (or with placebo).

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/bevacizumab-recurrent-platinum-sensitive-ovarian-cancer>

Alternative Therapies to Immunoglobulin for Guillain-Barré Syndrome

Plasma exchange may be more effective than placebo in reducing disability scale scores and improving the likelihood of disability improvement in patients with Guillain-Barré syndrome. Plasma exchange showed similar effectiveness as IV immunoglobulin on disability outcomes in treating Guillain-Barré syndrome. Limited evidence suggests that it may have a similar safety profile as IV immunoglobulin. An evidence-based guideline suggests that plasma exchange can be used as one of the immune therapies (IV immunoglobulin alternatives) for children with Guillain-Barré syndrome who have contraindications for IV immunoglobulin or when IV immunoglobulin is ineffective. However, most supporting evidence was from adults. No studies reporting on the rate of recovery, duration of hospitalization, or cost-effectiveness of plasma exchange for treating Guillain-Barré syndrome were found.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/alternative-therapies-immunoglobulin-guillain-barre-syndrome>

Occupational Therapy for Mental Health Conditions and Substance Use Disorders

OT interventions may be effective for reducing symptoms of depression and anxiety and improving function and participation with the interventions in adult patients diagnosed with depression and/or anxiety. In patients with schizophrenia, OT interventions may improve social functioning, cognitive performance, executive function, and motivation; and reduce the duration and rate of rehospitalization. No evidence regarding the clinical effectiveness of OT for the treatment of bipolar disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder was found. No evidence was found about the cost-effectiveness of OT for the treatment of mental health conditions or for the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of OT for the treatment of substance use disorders.

Systematic search: Yes

April 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/occupational-therapy-mental-health-conditions-and-substance-use-disorders>

McGill University Health Centre (Canada)

Nil

Health Information & Quality Authority (Ireland) – Health Technology Assessments

International review of the epidemiology of long COVID

The review included 51 primary research studies, which examined over 1.1 million participants, and four international registry documents. Prevalence rates varied considerably across the studies. In studies based on self-reported data, estimates for the prevalence of long COVID in the general population ranged from 15% to 53%. Much of this variation may be due to differences in reporting methods and population demographics within studies. While prevalence estimates were highest in those with a history of severe COVID-19 illness, long COVID was reported across all populations and age groups.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.hiqa.ie/sites/default/files/2023-05/International-review-of-the-epidemiology-of-long-COVID.pdf>

Campbell Collaboration

Effectiveness of interventions to address different types of vulnerabilities in community-dwelling older adults: an umbrella review

Evidence from reviews support diets, physical activity, and digital technologies to improve frailty, social isolation or loneliness. However, interventions examined were primarily conducted under optimal conditions. There is a need for further interventions in community settings and conducted under real world settings in older adults living with multiple vulnerabilities.

Systematic search: Yes

May 2023

<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/better-evidence/vulnerabilities-in-community-dwelling-older-adults.html>

Glasgow Centre for Population Health

Nil

NICE FORWARD PLANNING – Publications due June 2023

Transperineal biopsy for diagnosing prostate cancer

Diagnostic Technology

FibroScan for assessing liver fibrosis and cirrhosis outside secondary and specialist care

Diagnostic Technology

Atopic eczema in under 12s: diagnosis and management

Clinical Guideline - update (new clinical practice evidence)

Early and locally advanced breast cancer: diagnosis and management

Clinical Guideline - update (new clinical practice evidence)

Depression in adults

Quality Standard - update (new clinical practice evidence)

Suspected Sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management

Clinical Guideline - update (new clinical practice evidence)

Daratumumab with bortezomib and dexamethasone for previously treated multiple myeloma

(Review of TA573) Technology Appraisal

Bulevirtide for treating chronic hepatitis D

Technology Appraisal

Lorlatinib for untreated ALK-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer

Technology Appraisal

Axicabtagene ciloleucel for treating relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma after first-line chemoimmunotherapy

Technology Appraisal

Brexucabtagene autoleucel for treating relapsed or refractory B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in people 26 years and over

Technology Appraisal

Dabrafenib with trametinib for treating advanced BRAF V600 mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer

Technology Appraisal

Tixagevimab plus cilgavimab for preventing COVID-19

Technology Appraisal

Darolutamide with androgen deprivation therapy and docetaxel for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer

Technology Appraisal

Pembrolizumab with lenvatinib for previously treated advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer

Technology Appraisal

Empagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with preserved ejection fraction

Technology Appraisal

Baricitinib for treating severe alopecia areata

Technology Appraisal

Dapagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with preserved or mildly reduced ejection fraction

Technology Appraisal

Upadacitinib for previously treated moderately to severely active Crohn's disease

Technology Appraisal

Olaparib for maintenance treatment of recurrent, platinum-sensitive ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer that has responded to platinum-based chemotherapy

(Managed Access review of TA620) Technology Appraisal

Daprodustat for treating anaemia in people with chronic kidney disease

Technology Appraisal