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Dear Members

In advance of the next Society newsletter, I felt it important to update you on two areas related to NICE guidelines that are important in our clinical practice.

The first is the draft AAA guidelines of which you are all very aware of. The latest news is that the guideline is set with the NICE Board. The guidelines have been unprecedented in terms of the feedback and concerns raised. It has been challenging for all concerned and at present there is no date set for publication. We remain in touch with NICE, having met last week alongside other stakeholders, and have reiterated our desire to help to find a workable solution that is in the best interests of our patients and the vascular community as a whole.

The second relates to a new NICE guideline on mechanical thrombectomy which can be found [HERE](#). Recommendation 1.3 states that 'Clinicians should enter details of all patients who have the procedure onto the [BSIR Venous Registry](#).

You will all be asked by your Trust governance bodies whether you adhere to NICE guidelines and clearly you will need to state that at present the BSIR Venous Registry is not up and running, and therefore you cannot comply.

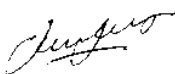
We did raise our concerns about the wording of the guidelines, with both NICE and BSIR, but were unable to change it. We have also committed to work collaboratively with BSIR in this and other areas.

I hope you all get a good break at some point over the Summer.

In the meantime, if there is any news regarding the AAA guidelines, we will keep you informed.

Regards,

Ian Loftus



Professor Ian Loftus
President, the Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland