

## Quick reference guide

# Drug-eluting stents for the treatment of coronary artery disease

NOTE: This guidance replaces sections 1.2–1.4 of NICE technology appraisal guidance 71 issued in October 2003.

The Institute reviews each piece of guidance it issues.

The review and re-appraisal of the use of stents for the treatment of coronary artery disease has resulted in a change in the guidance. Specifically there has been a change in the recommendations on the circumstances under which a drug-eluting stent should be used.

## Guidance

- 1 Drug-eluting stents are recommended for use in percutaneous coronary intervention for the treatment of coronary artery disease, within their instructions for use, only if:
  - the target artery to be treated has less than a 3-mm calibre or the lesion is longer than 15 mm, and
  - the price difference between drug-eluting stents and bare-metal stents is no more than £300.

## Implementation tools

NICE has developed tools to help organisations implement this guidance (listed below). These are available on our website ([www.nice.org.uk/TA152](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA152)).

- Costing report and costing template to estimate the savings and costs associated with implementation.
- Audit support for monitoring local practice.

## Further information

### Ordering information

You can download the following documents from [www.nice.org.uk/TA152](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA152)

- A quick reference guide (this document) – a summary of recommendations for healthcare professionals.
- 'Understanding NICE guidance' – information for patients and carers.
- The full guidance.
- Details of all the evidence that was looked at and other background information.

For printed copies of the quick reference guide or 'Understanding NICE guidance', phone NICE publications on 0845 003 7783 or email [publications@nice.org.uk](mailto:publications@nice.org.uk) and quote:

- N1636 (quick reference guide)
- N1637 ('Understanding NICE guidance').

## Related NICE guidance

For information about NICE guidance that has been issued or is in development, see the website ([www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk))

- Guidance on the use of coronary artery stents. NICE technology appraisal guidance 71 (2003). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA071](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA071)
- Clopidogrel in the treatment of non-ST-segment-elevation acute coronary syndrome. NICE technology appraisal guidance 80 (2004). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA080](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA080)

## Updating the appraisal

This technology appraisal will be considered for review in April 2009. Information about the progress of a review will be posted on the NICE website ([www.nice.org.uk/TA152](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA152))

This guidance represents the view of the Institute, which was arrived at after careful consideration of the available evidence. Healthcare professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. This guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make appropriate decisions in the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

Implementation of this guidance is the responsibility of local commissioners and/or providers. Commissioners and providers are reminded that it is their responsibility to implement the guidance, in their local context, in light of their duties to avoid unlawful discrimination and to have regard to promoting equality of opportunity. Nothing in this guidance should be interpreted in a way which would be inconsistent with compliance with those duties.

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