

Conflict of interests' policy

NOGG 2021: Clinical guideline for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis

The National Osteoporosis Guideline Group (NOGG) Guideline Writing Group is divided into two groups, a Guideline Development Group (GDG) and an Expert Advisory Group (EAG). The GDG consists of 8 voting members, and 3 lay members. One member has a financial disclosure, unrelated to drug development (JC received honoraria for speaking at a CME approved bone academy meeting and for consultancy relating to the characterisation of people at very high fracture risk), the remaining 10 have no financial disclosures. One member (JK) is also a member of the FRAX group, hence all FRAX-based recommendations had to be agreed by consensus of all the GDG. The Chair (CG) has no disclosures. The EAG is composed of 9 members, all of whom have relevant conflicts of interest. Disclosures of all members of both groups will be available on the NOGG website. Both the GDG and the EAG attend online meetings and take part in email discussions. However, voting on the recommendations is restricted to the GDG.

All members of the GDG and EAG have read NICE's 'Policy on declaring and managing interests for NICE advisory boards' (version 1.1, July 2019). The form used for declaration of interests is that used by NICE. This requests information on personal pecuniary interests, personal family interests, and personal and non-personal pecuniary interests. All members of NOGG are instructed to include all their disclosures, whether or not these are directly relevant to the issues considered in the guideline development. Disclosures are considered relevant when they involve technologies or pharmaceutical products included in the guideline and/or companies involved in the manufacture of those products. All members of the GDG and EAG complete a declaration of interests form annually, and these are reviewed and held by the Chair. Prior to starting the process of guideline re-writing in 2020, all GDG and EAG members completed a Declarations of Interest form in August 2020. After the guideline was written and before submission to NICE all GDG and EAG members completed a further Declarations of Interest form.

All agreed at the outset that NOGG guideline development is conducted without financial support from any outside source and that all NOGG members self-fund attendance at meetings and any related expenses.