

# **How can I work collaboratively with NICE to increase my research impact?**

Friday 28 February 2020

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session title &amp; Speakers</b>
9:30 – 9:45	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b></p> <p>Rachel Elliott, Professor of Health Economics</p>
9:45 - 10:15	<p><b>What is NICE, what does it do and what does the future hold?</b></p> <p>Judith Richardson, NICE Deputy Medical Director &amp; Programme Director</p>
10:15 – 11:00	<p><b>From research to guidance to evidence gaps</b></p> <p>Kay Nolan, NICE Associate Director</p>
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:00	<p><b>Relationship between NICE and University researchers can be synergistic: here's how!</b></p> <p>Peter Clayton, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health</p> <p>Colm Leonard, NICE Consultant Clinical Adviser</p>
12:00 – 12:45	<p><b>Case studies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How research has influenced NICE guidelines and changed public behaviour</b> Ann Webb, Professor of Atmospheric Radiation and Lesley Rhodes, Clinical Professor of Experimental Dermatology</li> <li>• <b>How Robot Analyst is addressing a service need within NICE</b> Sophia Ananiadou, Professor of Computer Science</li> </ul>
12:45 – 13:00	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p>Shaheen Hamdy, Associate Dean for REF and Impact, Professor of Neurogastroenterology</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Networking lunch

# What is NICE, what does it do and what does the future hold?

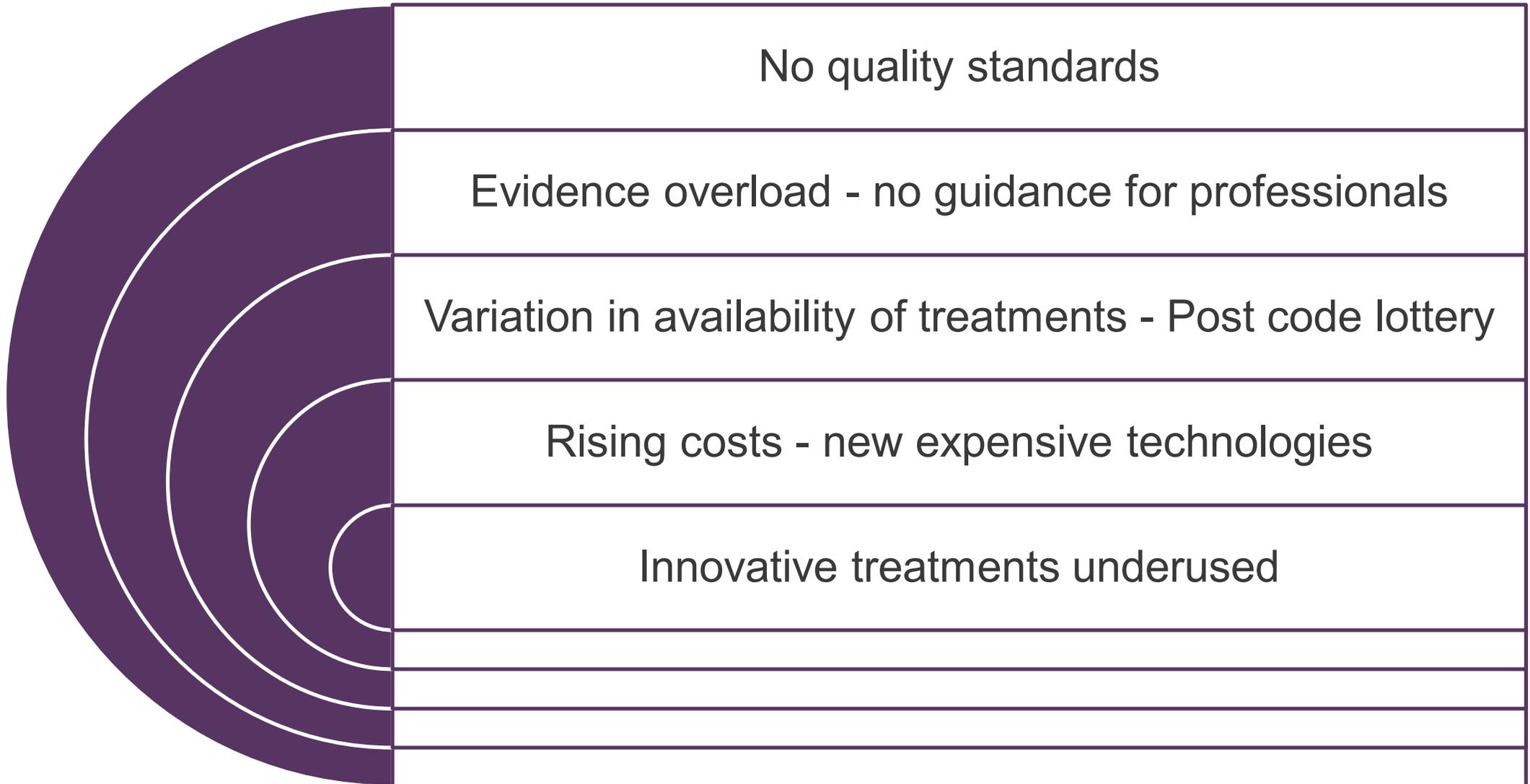
28 January 2020

University of Manchester

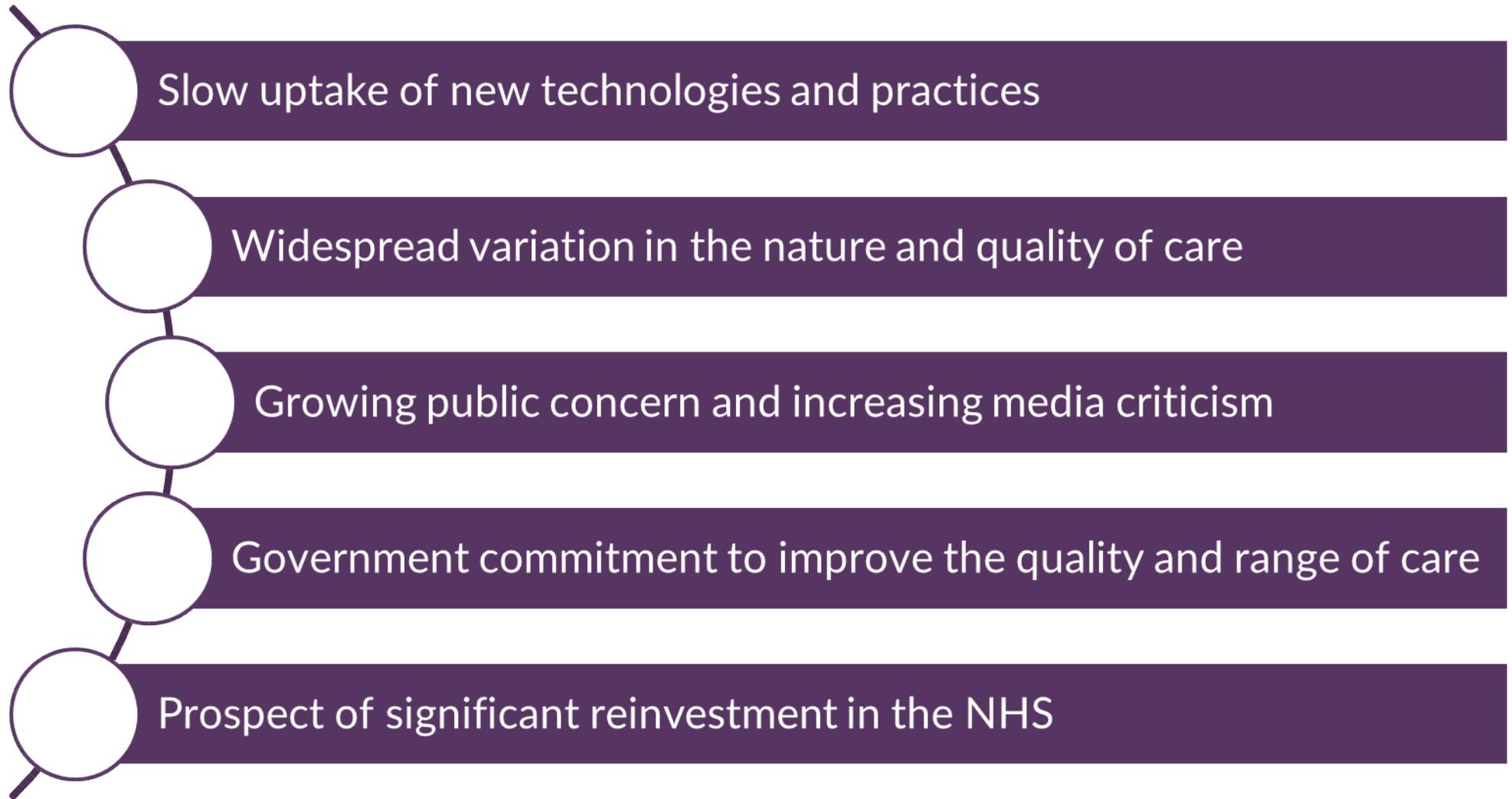
[Judith.Richardson@nice.org.uk](mailto:Judith.Richardson@nice.org.uk)

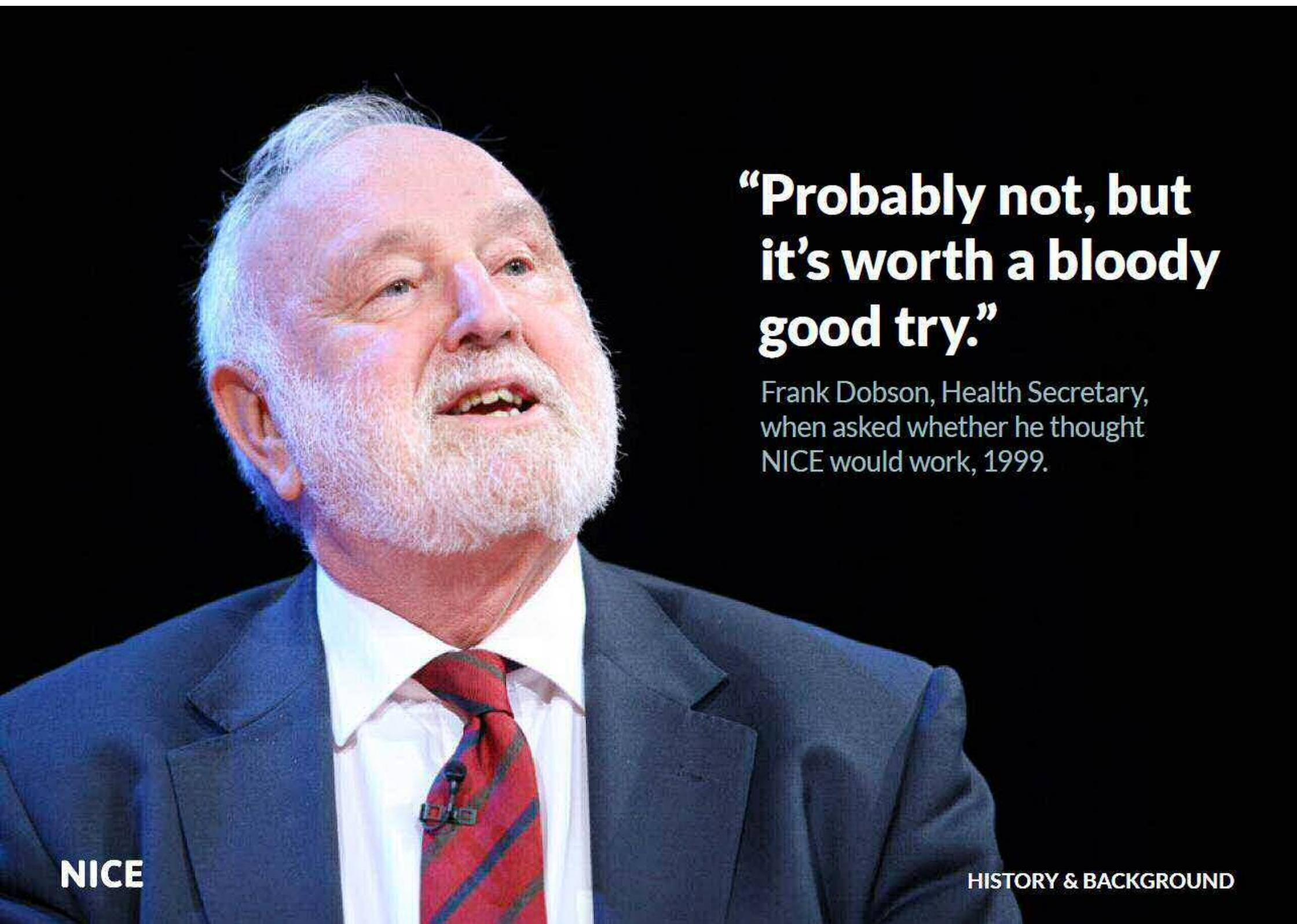
Dr Judith Richardson, Deputy Medical Director

# Pre-1999: Before NICE



# Why was NICE created?





**“Probably not, but  
it’s worth a bloody  
good try.”**

Frank Dobson, Health Secretary,  
when asked whether he thought  
NICE would work, 1999.

What's the role of NICE?

# NICE's role

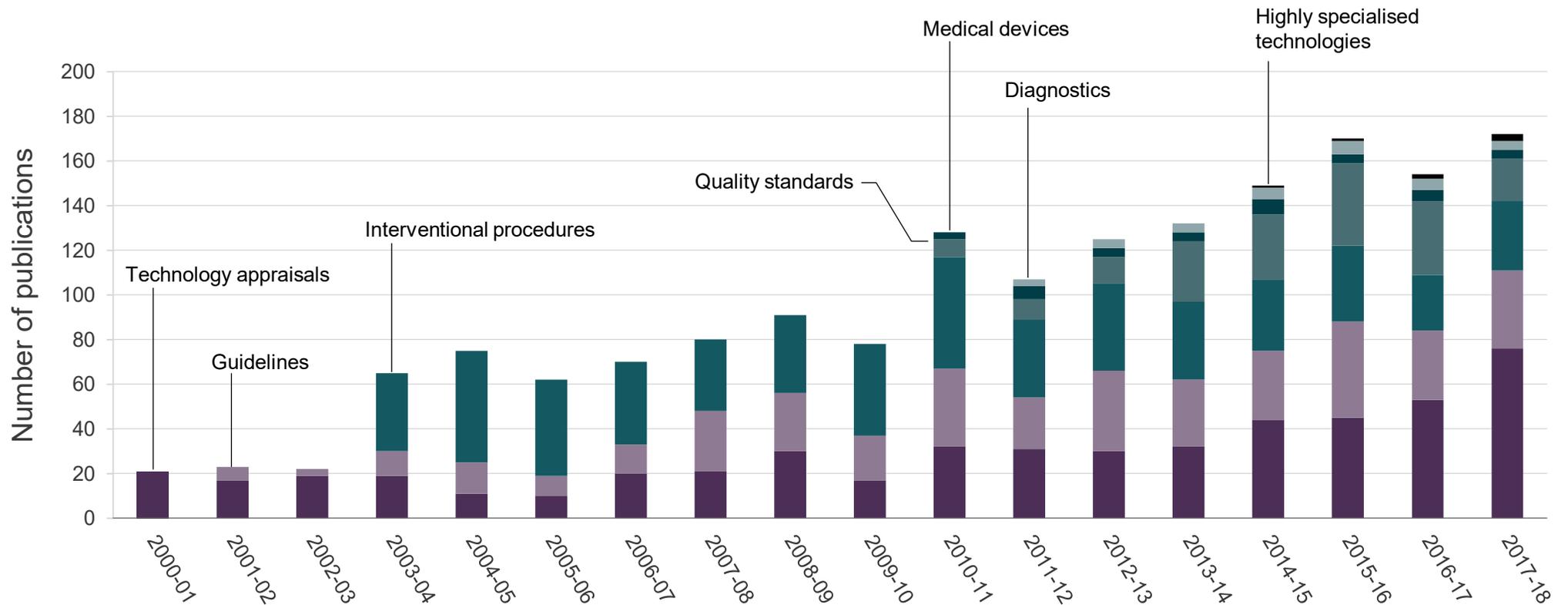
*The national point of reference for advice on safe, effective and cost effective practice in health and social care, providing guidance, advice and standards aligned to the needs of its users and the demands of a **resource constrained system**.*



# The NICE portfolio in 2019

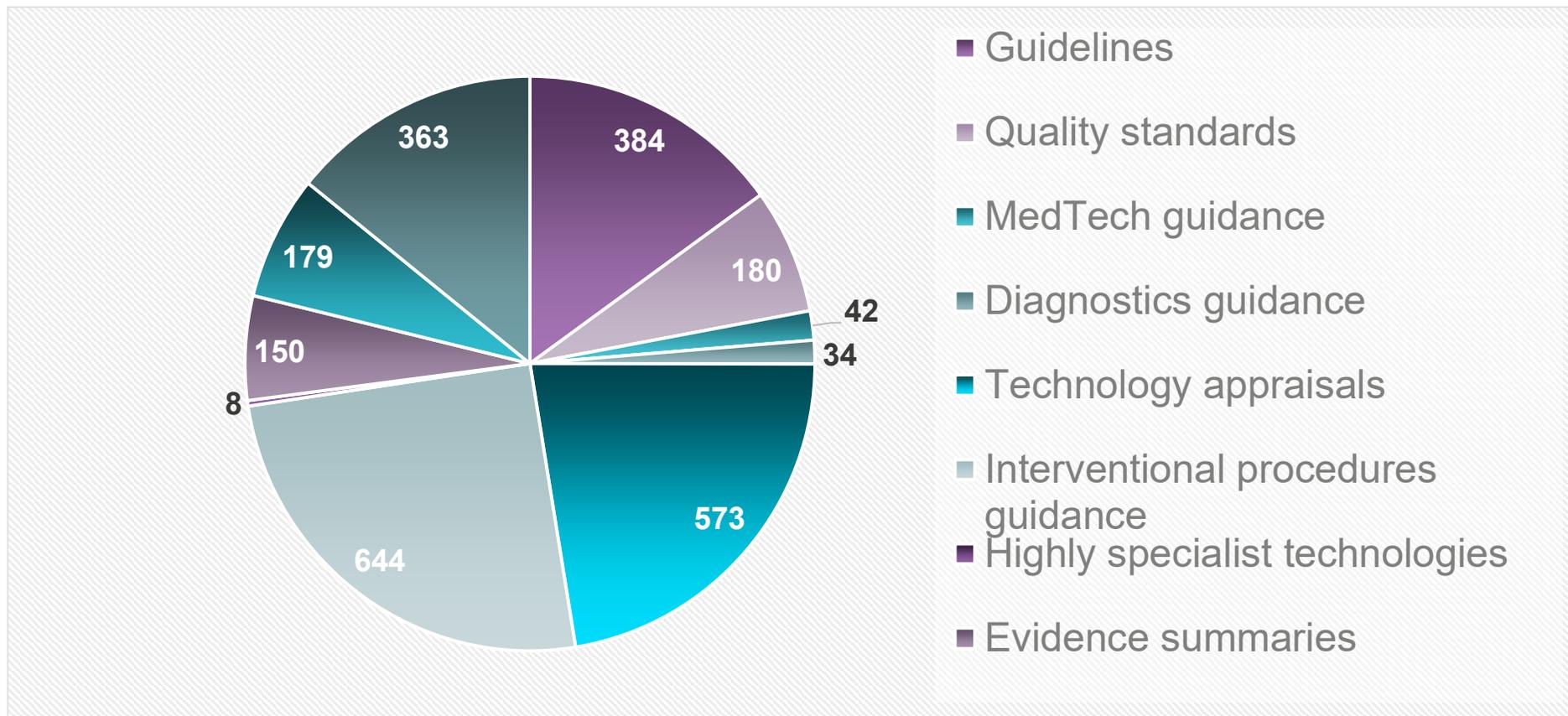


# NICE guidance and quality standards by year

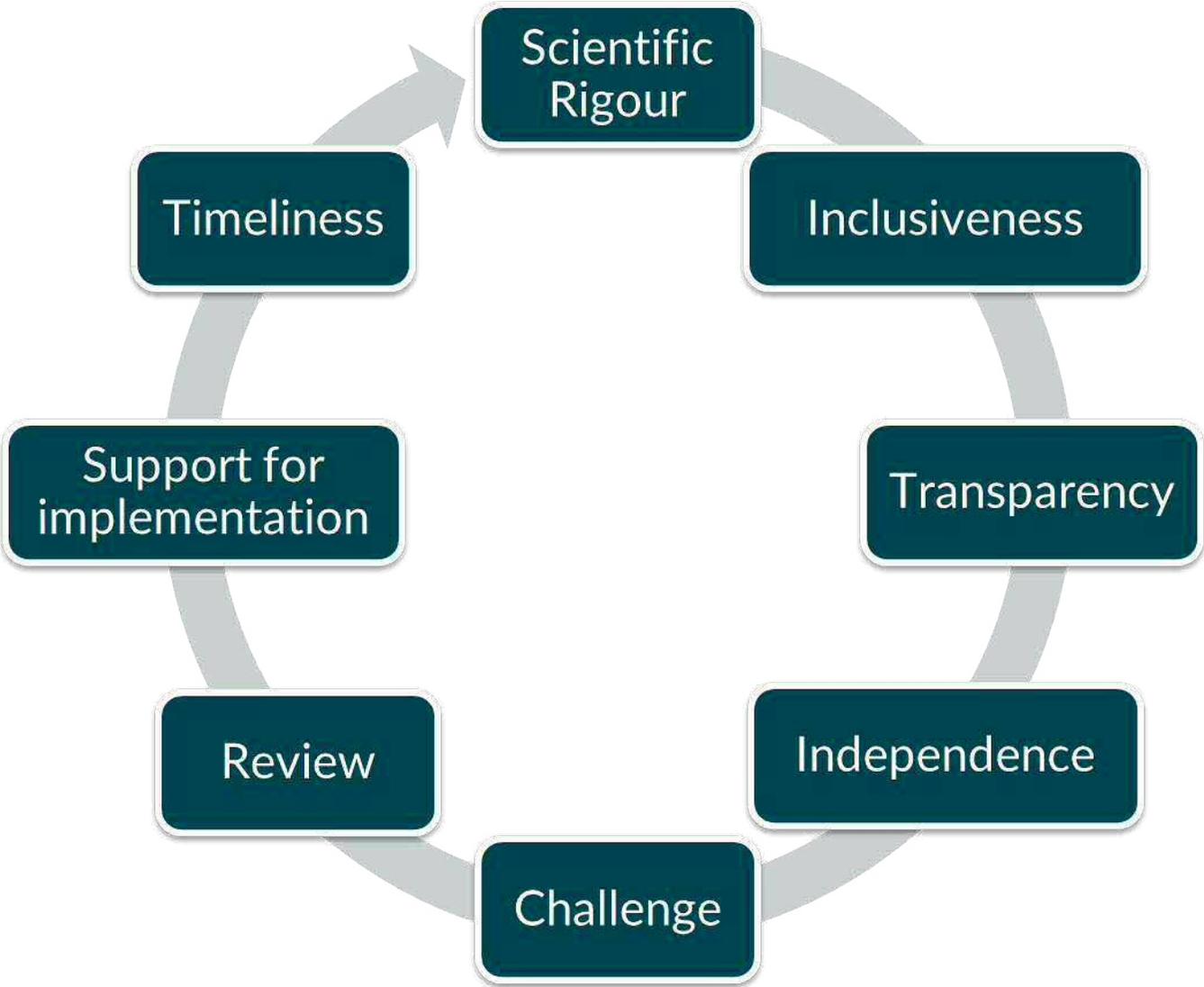


# 20 years of developing high quality advice and guidance

*In total over 2500 separate products!*



# Procedural principles of NICE Guidance



# Working in partnership

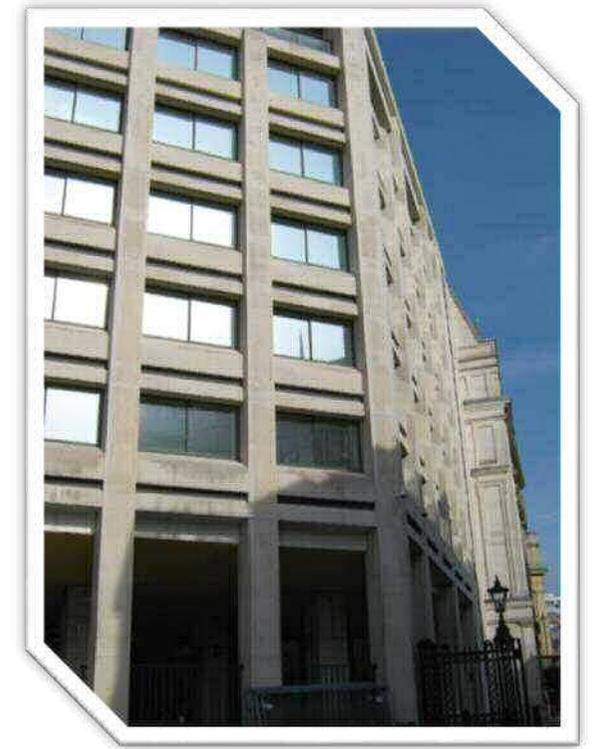
## BMJ | Evidence Centre



NICE

# Who are we? - the staff

- Funding - £60m (staff costs £35m)
- 700 staff directly employed in London and Manchester
- 2,000 experts –physicians, nurses, health economists, clinical epidemiologists, statisticians, lay people - across the UK



# Encouraging uptake

# Implementation strategy

Our aim is to drive and enable the effective use of NICE guidance and standards to support local initiatives, improve outcomes and reduce variation.

Five principles underpin the strategy:

- Guidance and standards are fit for our audiences' needs
- Audiences are aware of our guidance and standards
- Audiences are motivated to make changes and drive improvements
- Practical support is highlighted to support local adoption and implementation
- Impact and uptake is regularly evaluated

**Work with  
national, regional and local  
organisations**

**Offer advice and support  
locally to facilitate  
problem solving**

**Provide practical tools  
and advice**

## **Delivering the NICE implementation strategy**

**Fellows & Scholars  
ambassadors for  
NICE**

**Provide Shared  
Learning examples**

**Endorse external  
support tools**

**Collect and share  
impact data**

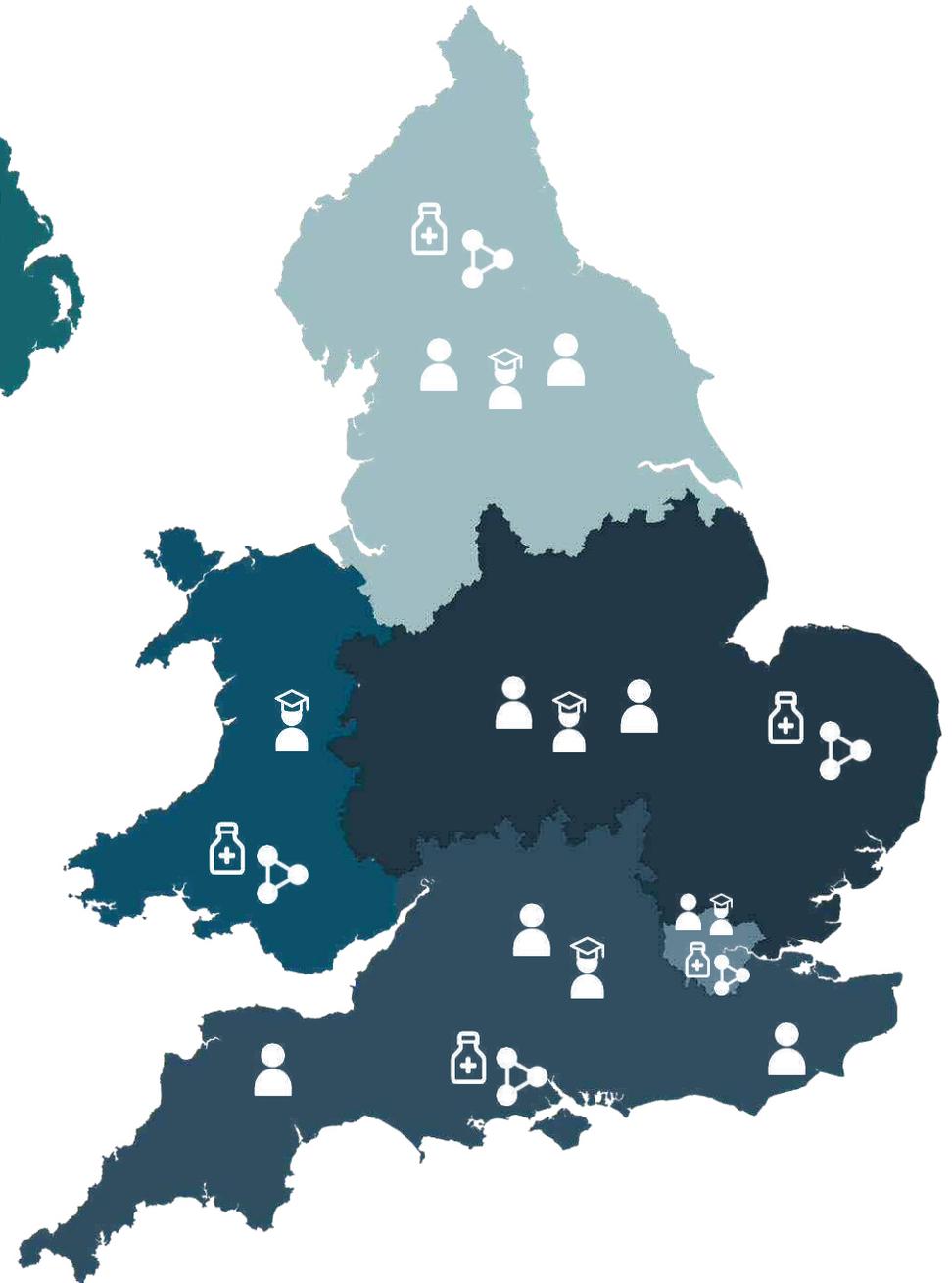
**NICE**

# Resource Impact

Publication Date	Guidance short title		Type of guidance	Potential impact	Potential resource impact areas (costs or savings)
June 2016	Adalimumab for treating moderate to severe hidradenitis suppurative (TA392)		Single Technology Appraisal	Low cost	<p>Approx. 1,600 people with hidradenitis suppurativa eligible for treatment with adalimumab.</p> <p>Costs will vary: peaking at around £8.5m in 2020/21 and reducing to a steady state of £7.3m from 2021/22.</p> <p>Potential savings: reduced visits to wound care clinics and fewer wound dressings; reduced hospital admissions, surgeries and follow-ups; reduced need for other pharmacological treatments.</p>
Steady state resource impact for England (£000s)			Commissioner	Provider(s)	
Costs (a)	Savings (b)	Total resource impact (a-b)	NHS England	Secondary care acute	
7,334	0	7,334			
Resource Impact for England (£000s)					
2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
3,792	4,867	6,334	7,801	8,509	

# NICE Field Team and Medicines Implementation Consultants

-  Field Team
-  NICE Fellows and Scholars
-  Medicines Implementation  
Consultants  
(Medicines and Technologies)
-  Associate/affiliate networks  
(Medicines and Technologies)



# NICE Pathways – guidance at your fingertips

NICE Pathways bring together all NICE guidance, quality standards and support in easy-to-navigate flowcharts

[pathways.nice.org.uk](http://pathways.nice.org.uk)



# Support for transformation

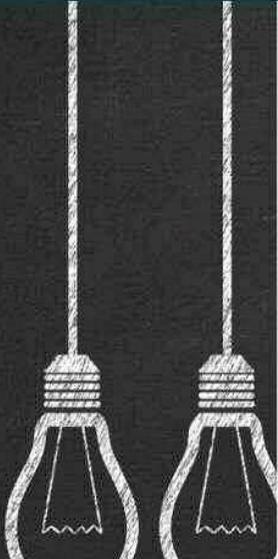
**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Introduction Support for transforming health and social care Using our guidance Redesigning pathways and improving services Reducing unwarranted variation and standardising care Other products and local support

## Reducing unwarranted variation and standardising care

Ensuring people access the right care, in the right place, at the right time means the NHS and social care can help more people effectively, now and in the future. As Professor Matthew Cripps from RightCare explains, [variation in care](#) for different people can be the right thing. But it's unacceptable to see inconsistencies across the country in the quality of care people receive. Equally, if different organisations have joined together under one STP, you may want to make sure they're providing consistent care across similar services.

Our [quality standards](#) can help identify variation and areas for improvement in the care services provide in your STP, and make sure the best possible care is provided everywhere. By mapping these against the priorities in your STP plan, you can focus activity on areas that will have the greatest impact.



**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Making the case for action Finding the right information Support for improving quality Shared learning case studies

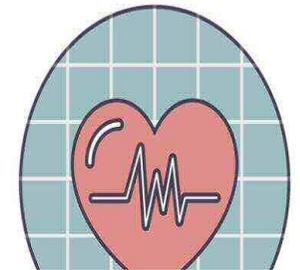
## CVD prevention: detecting atrial fibrillation and anticoagulation

How NICE resources can support local priorities

### Making the case for action

Atrial fibrillation (AF) increases the risk of stroke, heart attack and dementia, so is a priority for many sustainability and transformation partnerships (STPs). New analysis from Public Health England and NHS England shows that, over 3 years, achieving optimal treatment for people diagnosed with AF could prevent up to 14,220 strokes across England. This could save £240 million. They've used published data to produce [infographics for each STP](#).

We've published guidance and quality standards on AF, and tools to help with putting it into practice. Our guidance is aligned with the NHS England RightCare and Public Health England [cardiovascular disease \(CVD\) prevention pathway](#).



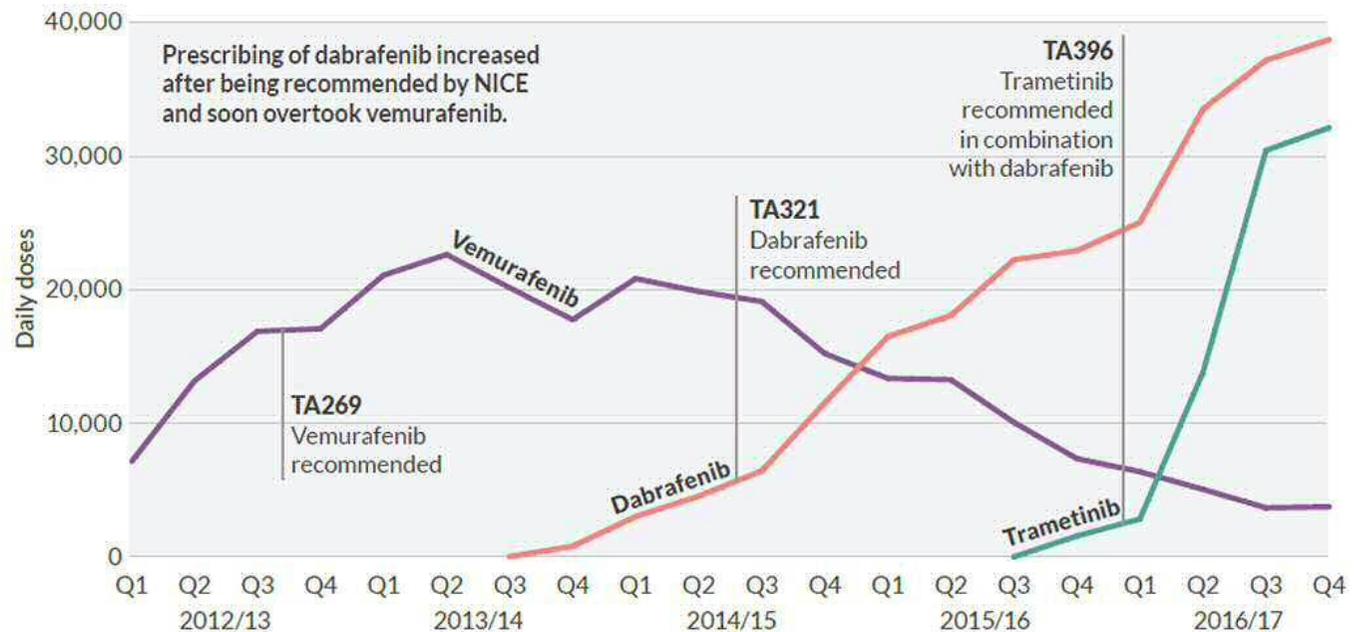
Does NICE make a difference?

# Uptake of new drugs for melanoma

## BRAF V600 targeted therapy

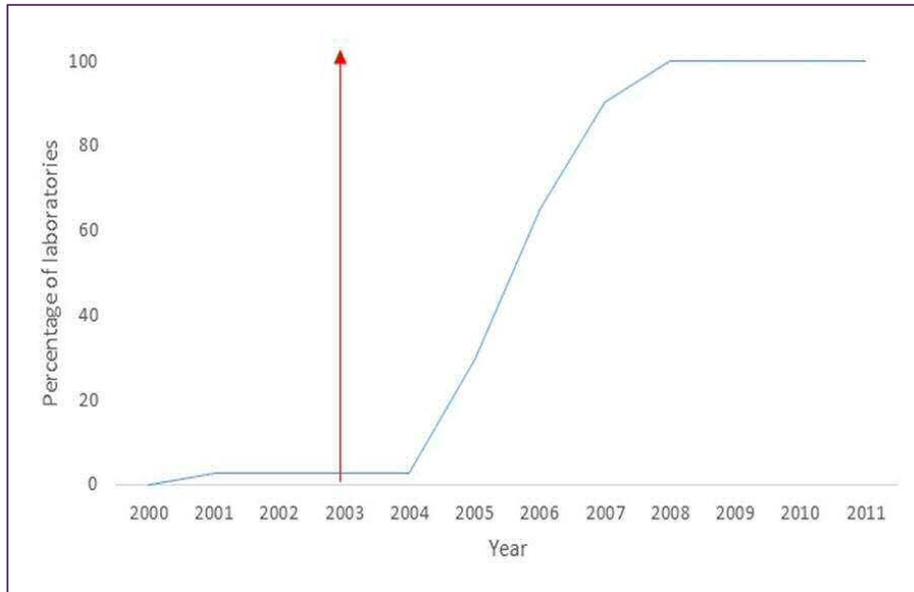
[Vemurafenib](#) was recommended by NICE in December 2012 for treating people with locally advanced or metastatic melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation. In October 2014, another BRAF V600 inhibitor, [dabrafenib](#), was recommended by NICE. These medicines do not differ in clinical effectiveness, but dabrafenib has a lower incidence of photosensitivity, which may be a major problem for some patients.

Prescribing of medicines for treating advanced BRAF V600 mutation-positive melanoma

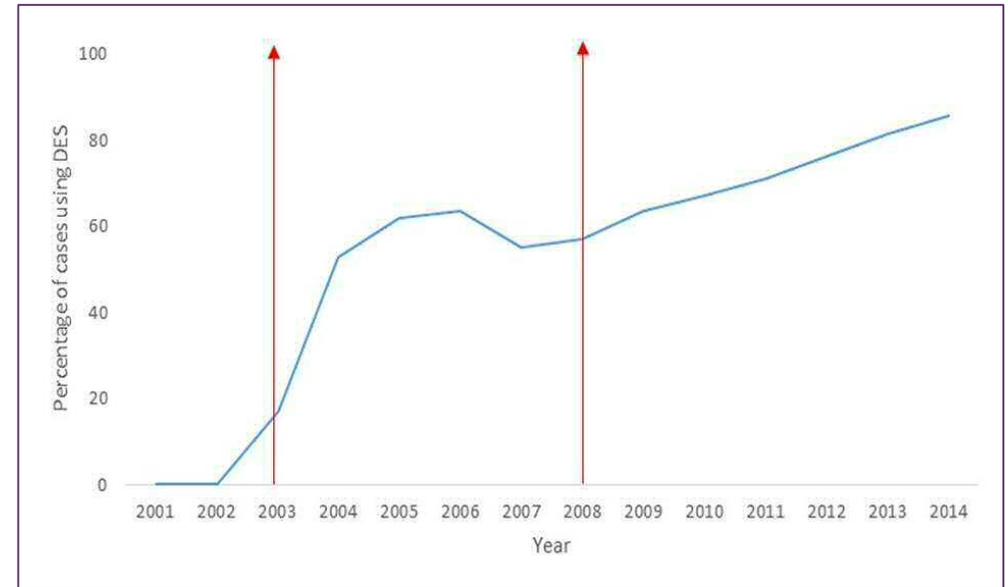


# Uptake of recommended technologies

Report in BMJ Innovations

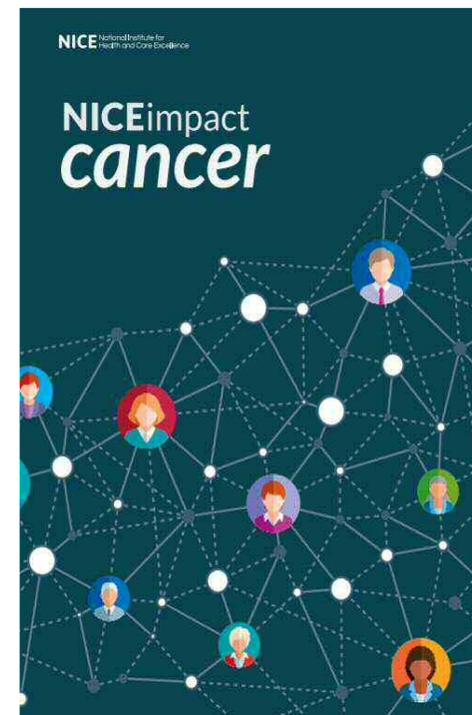
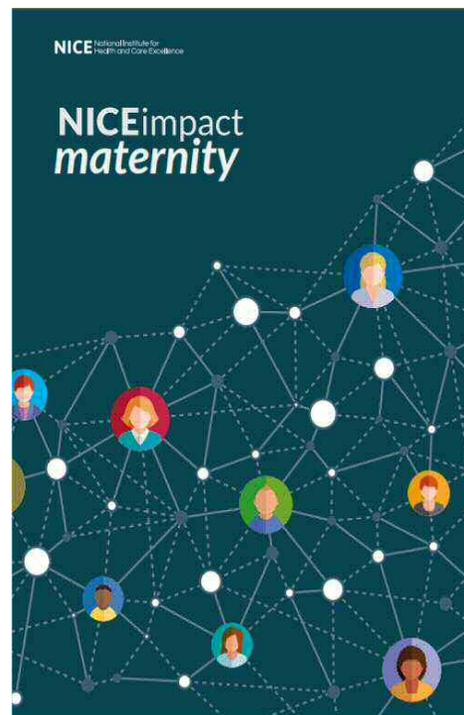
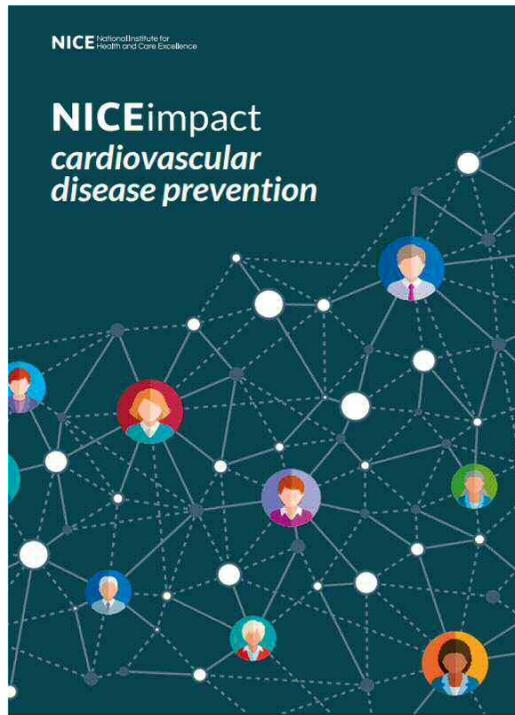


Percentage of laboratories fully converted to LBC. NICE guidance was published in 2003 (red arrow)



Percentage of percutaneous coronary interventions using drug eluting stents in an NHS setting in England. NICE guidance was published in 2003 and 2008 (red arrows)

# Monitoring and supporting uptake



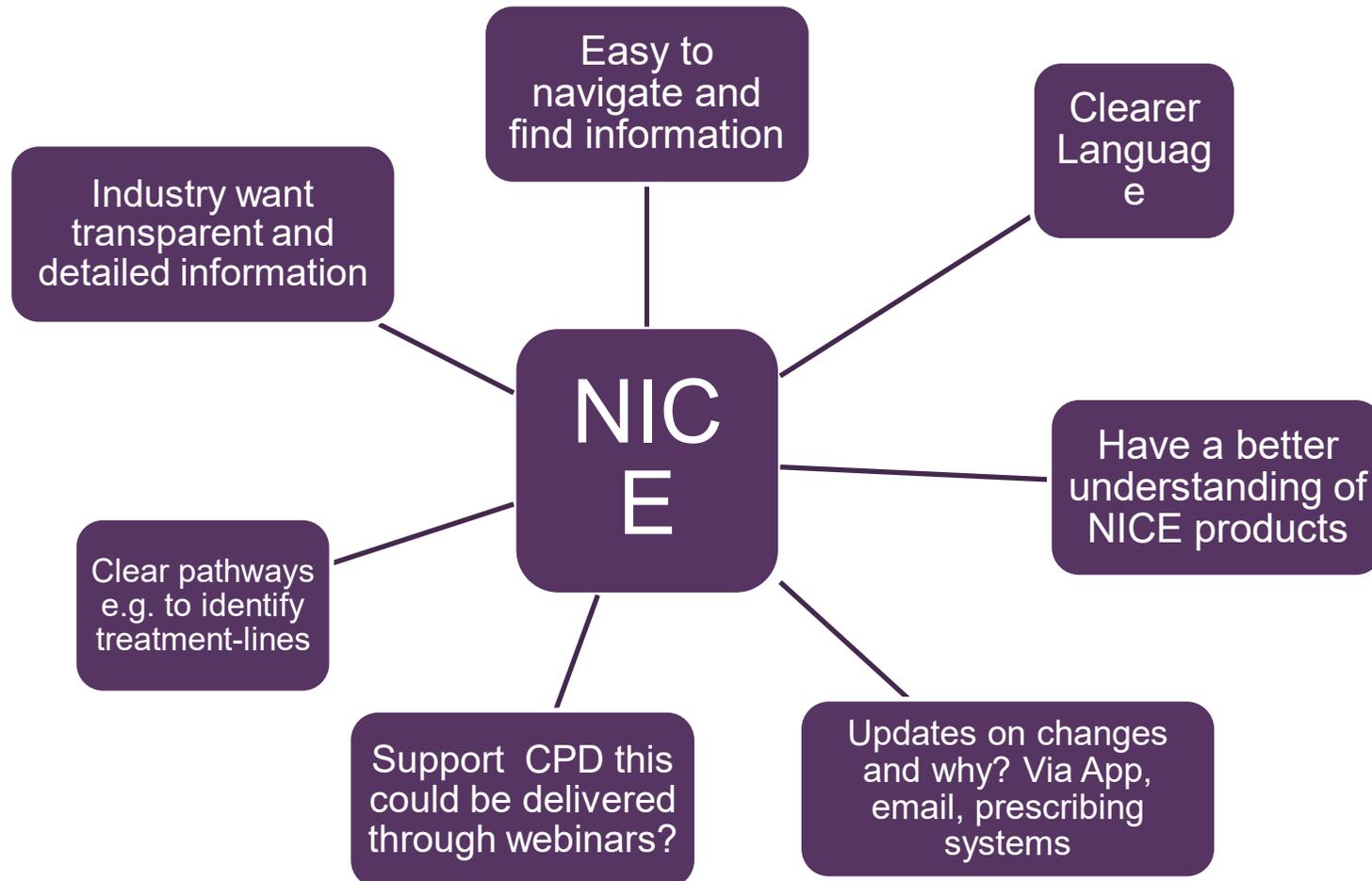
Search for  
"NICE impact CVD"  
at  
[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)  
to read

# The future

# Changes in the external environment



# What do users want?



# Problems with the evidence...

- Not enough
- Poor quality
- Conflicting
- Wrong sort

*“Evidence is inherently uncertain, dynamic, complex, contestable, and rarely complete”*

Lomas, J; Culyer T et. al

Conceptualizing & Combining Evidence For Health System Guidance; CHSRF, May 2005

# Future vision

## *Building on the best – accessible, living, integrated guidance*

To achieve this we will:

- Combine all our advice and guidance into an integrated product on the NICE website that follows the patient journey
- Rapidly sequence new drugs and technologies, so practitioners and commissioners can identify them and adopt more quickly
- Keep recommendations up to date, so care is always based on the best available evidence and data
- Integrate recommendations into IT systems, so it will be easier for practitioners to adhere to the evidence





**NICE Connect**  
Our vision for accessible,  
integrated and living guidance

The banner features a central graphic on a teal background. At the top center is a pink circle containing the word "NICE". Below it is a white silhouette of a person in a dynamic, jumping pose. Surrounding this central figure are four white circular icons connected by a dashed white line: a group of three people (top-left), a medicine bottle and pills (top-right), a bar chart with an upward-trending line (bottom-right), and a medical cross with a plus sign (bottom-left). The background is a network of white lines and dots.

**NICE**

# Thank you and any questions?



[Judith.Richardson@nice.org.uk](mailto:Judith.Richardson@nice.org.uk)

# From research to evidence gaps

Kay Nolan

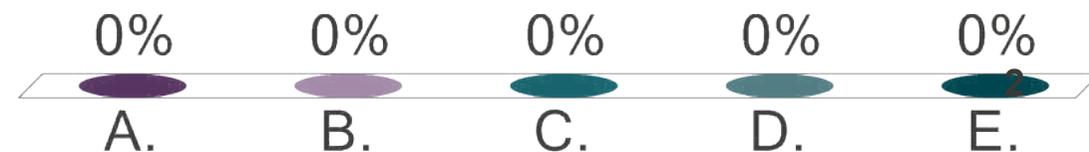
Associate Director, Centre for Guidelines

[Kay.Nolan@nice.org.uk](mailto:Kay.Nolan@nice.org.uk)

# Q1

- A. The first guidance issued by NICE was.....
- B. Guidance on the use of inhaler systems (devices) in children under the age of 5 with chronic asthma
- C. Guidance on the use of trastuzumab for the treatment of breast cancer
- D. Guidance on the extraction of wisdom teeth
- E. Improving outcomes in urological cancers

**NICE**



# Overview

- Principles of guidance development
- Overview of approach to guidance development – journey from evidence-guidance-gaps
- Opportunities for researcher interaction

# NICE guidance



# NICE Guidance Portfolio

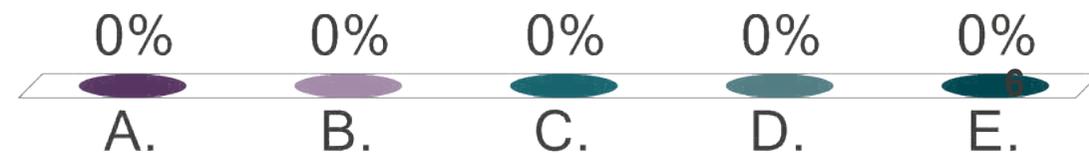
- NICE guidelines
- Diagnostics guidance
- Interventional procedures guidance
- Technology appraisal guidance
- Highly specialised technology guidance
- Medical technologies guidance

The screenshot shows the NICE website homepage. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search NICE..." and a "Sign in" button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with links for "NICE Pathways", "NICE guidance", "Standards and Indicators", "Evidence search", "BNF", "BNFC", "CKS", and "Journals and databases". The main content area features a large teal banner with the text "Improving health and social care through evidence-based guidance" and a purple button labeled "Find NICE guidance". To the right of the banner is a section titled "Browse guidance by area:" with a list of categories: "Conditions and diseases", "Health and social care delivery", "Health protection", "Lifestyle and wellbeing", "Population groups", and "Settings". Below the banner is a footer with links for "About us", "Put guidance into practice", "Find journals and databases", "Financial planning", and "Get involved". At the bottom, there are two sections: "Latest guidance >" and "Latest guidance in consultation >". The "Latest guidance" section lists several items, including "National Early Warning Score systems that alert to deteriorating adult pa...", "Patiromer for treating hyperkalaemia", "Sotagliflozin with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes", "Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management", and "Dapagliflozin with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes". The "Latest guidance in consultation" section lists "Acute coronary syndromes", "Axonics sacral neuromodulation system for bladder control in people with...", "Preterm labour and birth", "Pembrolizumab with axitinib for untreated advanced renal cell carcinom...", and "Suspected neurological conditions". A large number "5" is overlaid on the right side of the "Latest guidance in consultation" section.

## Q2

- A. Approximately - how many guidance products has NICE produced?
- B. 800
- C. 1100
- D. 1500**
- E. 2000

**NICE**

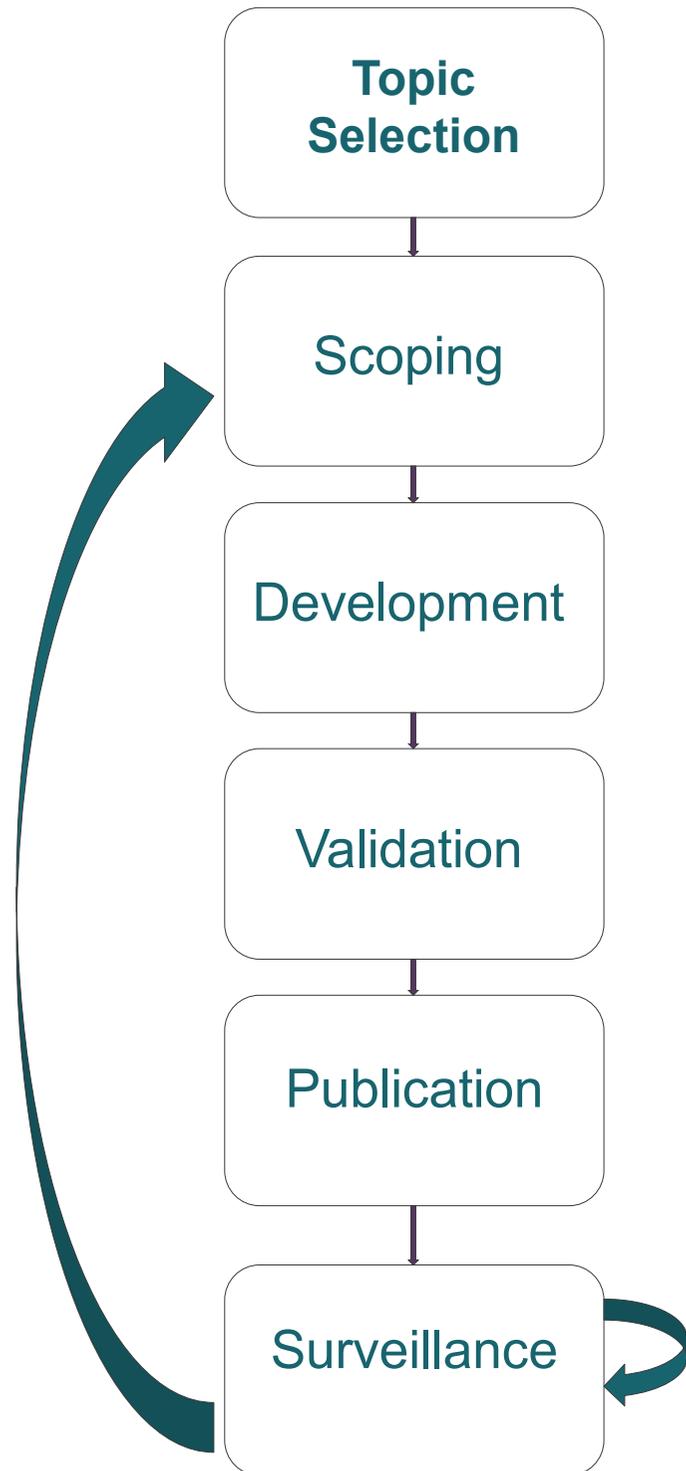


# Key principles for guidance development



# Guidance development cycle

Example of guidelines



# Topic selection

- Key considerations:
  - System need (priority given by professional bodies, commissioners, organisations for people using services)
  - Health and Care burden
  - Potential to improve outcomes and quality of life
- Internal Topic Selection Oversight Group
- Discuss with commissioners
  - Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England
- Formal referral

# Scoping



- Sets out what the guideline will and won't cover
- Sets a framework for the development work
- Is modified in response to consultation feedback



# Development



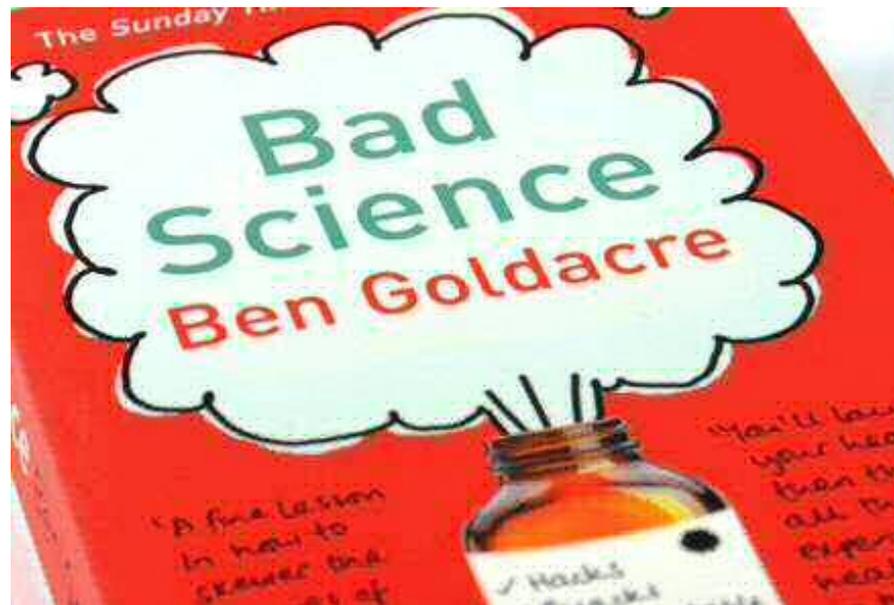
## Q3

True or False

NICE is primarily interested in RCTs for guidance development?

A. True

B. False



**NICE**



## Q4

NICE always does a cost effectiveness analysis for everything it recommends

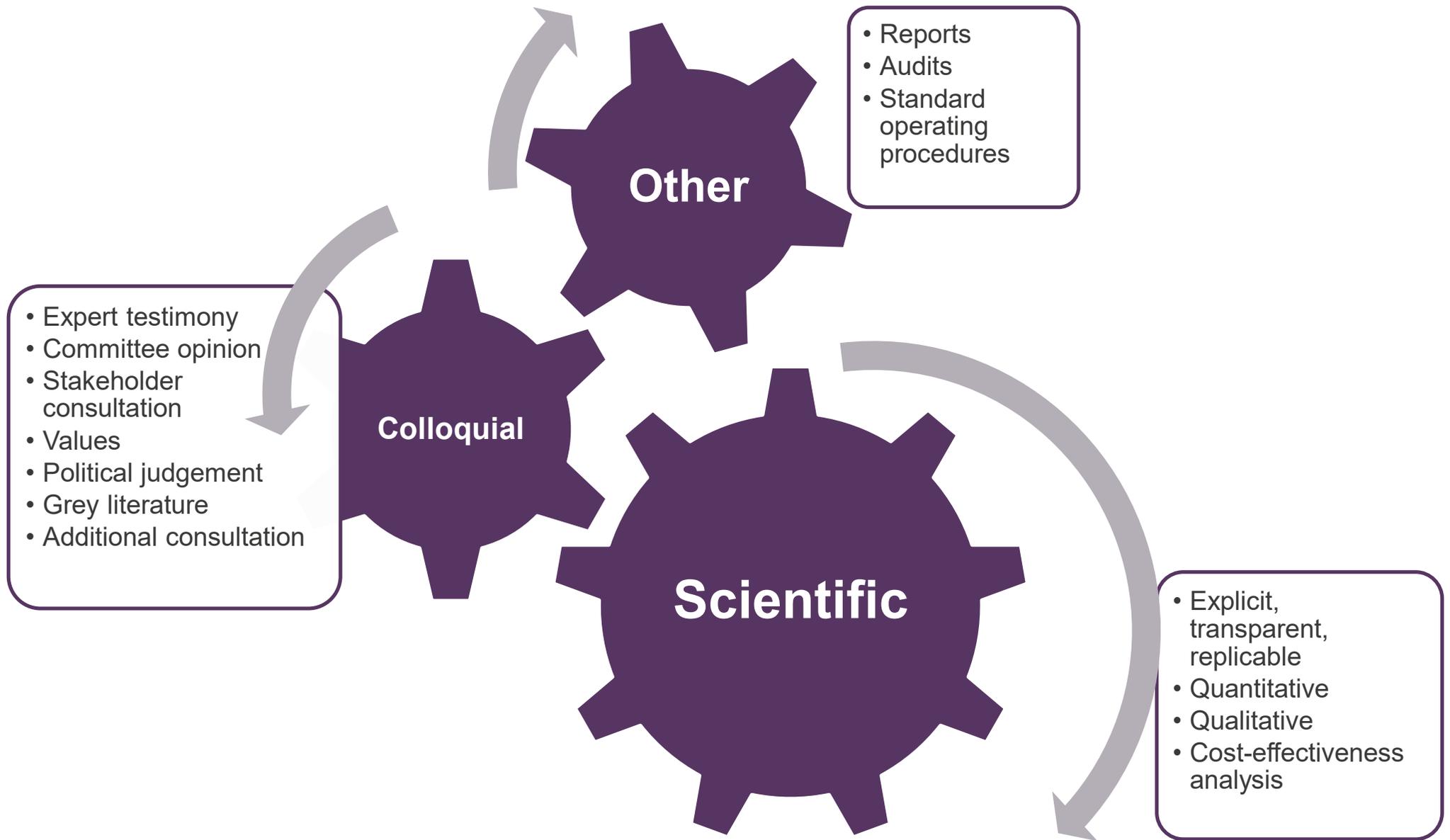
A. True

B. False

**NICE**



# Evidence



# Types of questions covered in guidelines

## **Effectiveness**

- What are the effective occupant behaviour interventions to reduce or prevent the health impacts of poor indoor air quality at home?
- Which first-line opioid maintenance treatments are effective and cost effective in relieving pain in patients with advanced and progressive disease who require strong opioids?

## **Diagnostic test/test strategy**

- What is the accuracy of D-dimer assay for diagnosing deep vein thrombosis compared with compression ultrasonography?

## **Prognosis (likelihood of outcome)**

- Which people having neoadjuvant chemotherapy or chemoradiotherapy for rectal cancer do not need surgery?

# Types of questions covered in guidelines

## **Prediction**

- Which risk assessment tools are the most accurate in predicting the risk of fragility fracture in adults with osteoporosis or previous fragility fracture? (e.g prognostic prediction)

## **Views/Experiences – Qualitative**

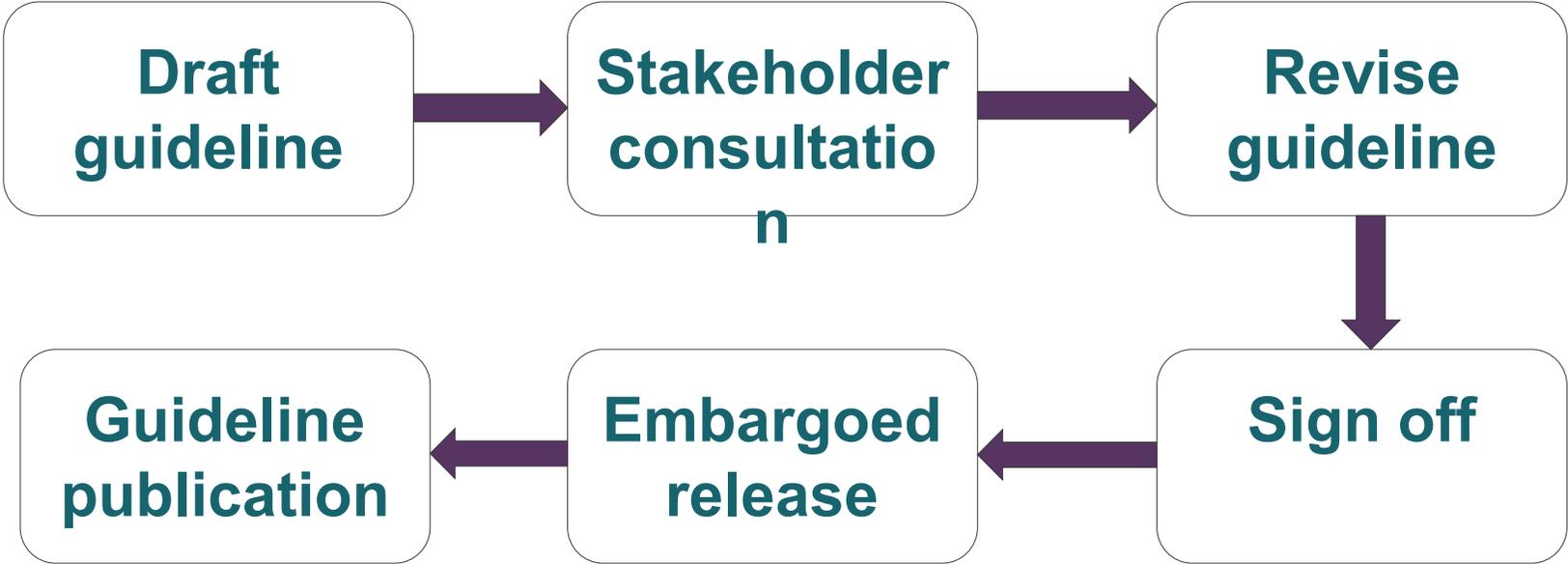
- How does culture affect the need for and content of information and support for bottle or breastfeeding?
- What elements of care on the general ward are viewed as important by patients following their discharge from critical care area?

# Writing the guideline

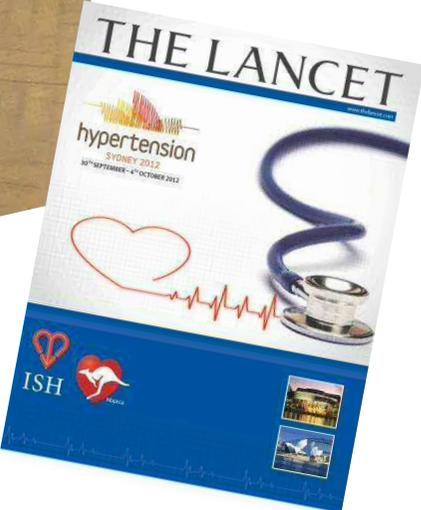
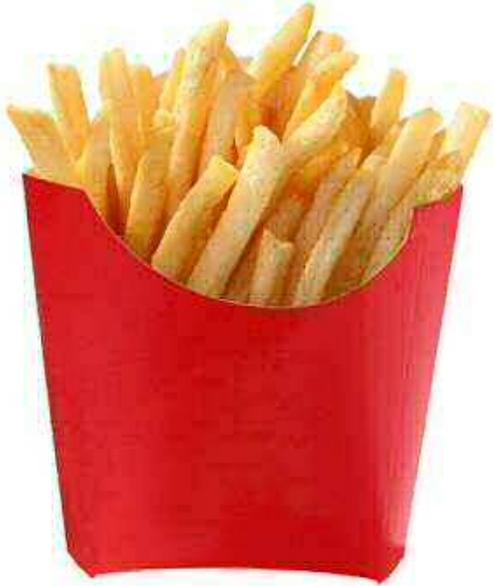
- Recommendations
  - Quality of evidence
  - Trade off between benefits and harms
  - Trade off between economic considerations and resource use
  - Indirect evidence
  - Evidence to support implementation
  - Size of effect and potential impact on population health
  - Judgements – social value, equality
  - Strength of recommendation – assessment of balance between benefits and harms
- Insufficient evidence/uncertainty - Research recommendations

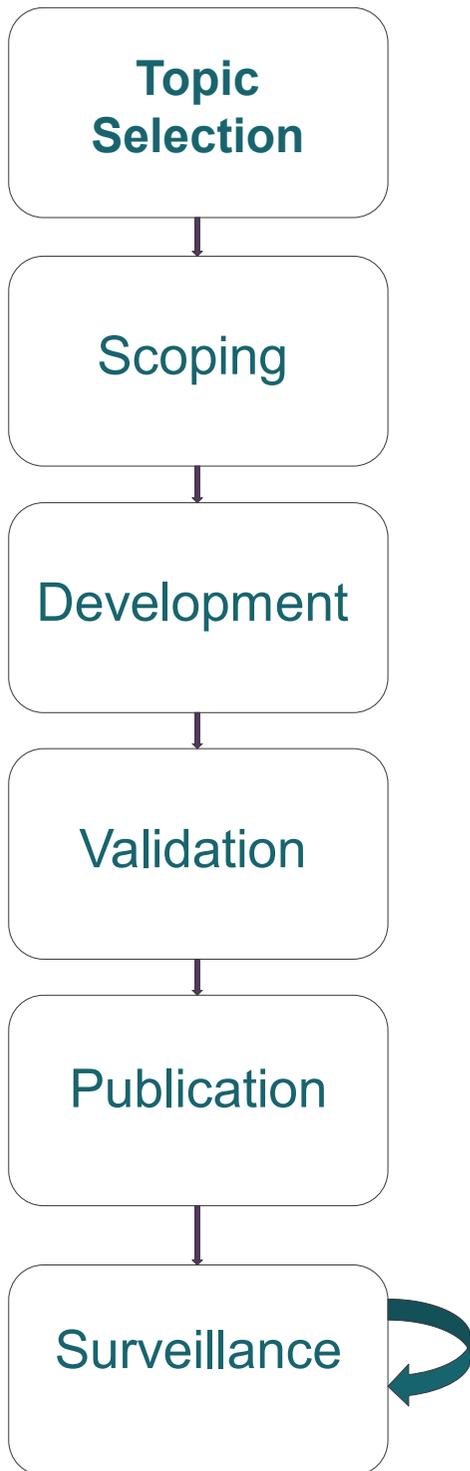


# Validation & publication



# Implementation!





# Surveillance process - Aim

## **Check that guidelines are up to date**

- Explore impact of any new evidence

## **Identify new technologies and interventions**

- Within the parameters of the referral

## **Explore changes in contextual factors**

- Policy, infrastructure, legislation or costs

## 2 approaches – proactive and reactive

Standard surveillance	Exceptional review
At least every 5 years	Triggered by an event
Try to review in themes	Reactive approach
Covers all recommendations within guideline	Scope is determined by event
Key steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intelligence gathering</li> <li>• Evidence review (abstract)</li> <li>• Consultation</li> <li>• Publication of decision</li> </ul>	Flexible approach dependent on event

# Researcher interaction

Research  
recommendations

Implementation/uptake

New evidence  
(surveillance)

Process and methods  
(RobotAnalyst)

# Research recommendations

## Database of research recommendations

<https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/science-policy-research/research-recommendations>

[Home](#) > [About](#) > [What we do](#) > [Research and development](#)

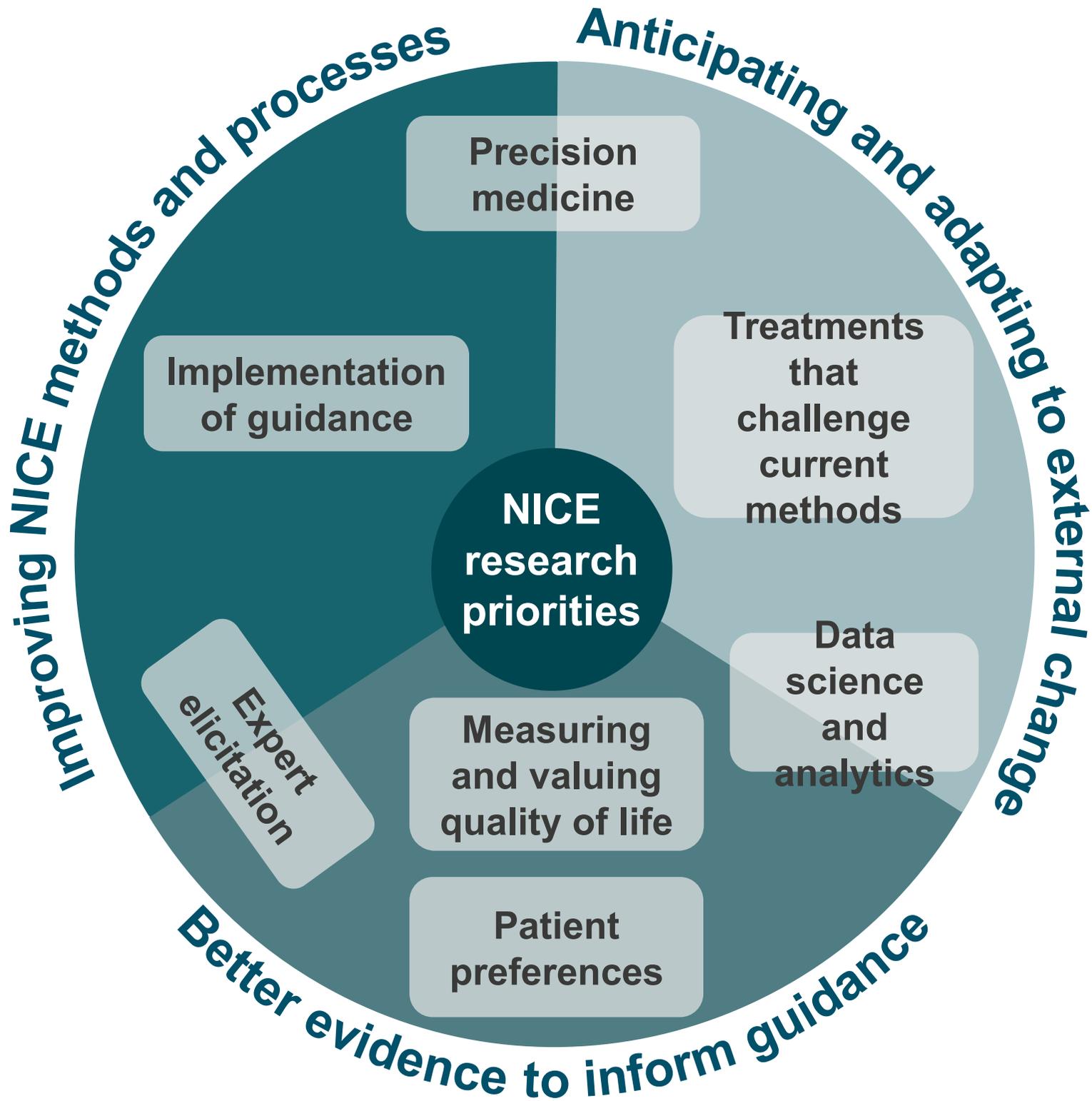
### Research recommendations

As we develop guidance, we identify gaps and uncertainties in the evidence base which could benefit from further research. The most important unanswered questions are developed into research recommendations. Read our [process and methods guide](#).

Browse the list below to find a topic of interest (only research recommendations made from 2011 onwards are shown. Please [contact us](#) if you need further information):

Showing 1 to 15 of 15 (filtered from 1,587 total)

Recommendation ID	Recommendation Name
CG117/1	<p>Interferon-gamma tests: - A diagnostic and qualitative study is needed to assess whether interferon-gamma tests are acceptable to patients and are more effective than tuberculin skin tests for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• predicting subsequent development of active e tuberculosis (TB), or</li><li>• diagnosing or ruling out current active TB when undertaking TB screening in:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• new entrants from high TB prevalence countries</li><li>• healthcare workers</li><li>• children in high-risk areas who missed neonatal BI Bacille Calmette-Guèrin (BCG)</li><li>• contacts of people with sputum smear-positive TB</li><li>• HIV positive patients.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>This study should compare the strategies of Mantoux test only, Mantoux test then interferon gamma test if positive, and interferon gamma test only.</p>
NG60/1	<p>Interventions to improve the acceptability and uptake of HIV testing among people at higher risk:- What interventions would be effective and cost effective among people at higher risk in the UK to increase uptake of HIV testing among people who may have undiagnosed HIV?</p>



# Any questions?

[Kay.Nolan@nice.org.uk](mailto:Kay.Nolan@nice.org.uk)



## Research & Opportunities to Interact with NICE: Understanding the landscape

- Health Priorities
- Faculty of Biology, Medicine & Health
- *Manchester Academic Health Science Centre - [Discovery](#)*
- *GM Academic Health Science Network- [Development & Deployment](#)*
- *GM Applied Research Collaboration - [Evaluation & Implementation](#)*

**Health Innovation Manchester**

# Memorandum of Understanding – UoM, Health Innovation Manchester, NICE 2019

A shared commitment to improving the overall health of the population through research and informing health policy and practice, as well as through the development and evaluation of health technologies.

## Example:

Exploring how routinely collected information, such as anonymised data derived from patient records, may be used to evaluate the effectiveness of medicines, new technologies and interventions in the development of NICE guidance.

“using data for research purposes is vital to provide modern day healthcare that radically improves the health and wellbeing of our citizens”



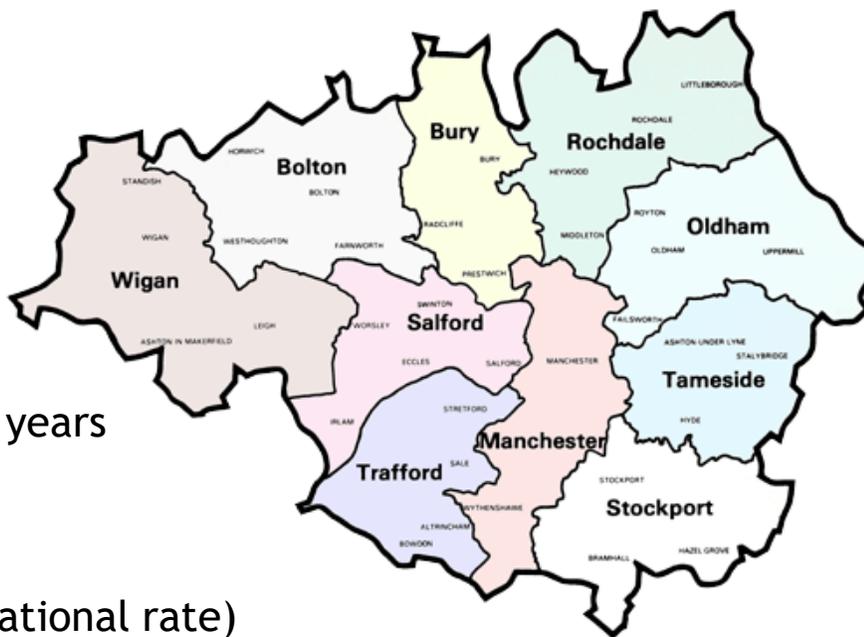
# Manchester - our priorities

**2.8 Million Population:**  
**200+ languages spoken**

**434,000**  
**ethnic minority population**  
Growth of 200,000+ in last 10 years

**104,000**  
**Unemployed (7.8% vs 5.5% national rate)**

**12,000**  
**children not ready for school**



## Population Outcomes

are below national averages  
against a range of disease and  
mortality figures

**77.8 yrs**  
**men's life expectancy**  
Below England average of 79.5

**81.3 yrs**  
**women's life expectancy**  
Below England average of 83.1

**4000 people in GM in contact**  
**with mental health services**  
for every 100,000 of the  
population  
National average 2200

**More homeless people died**  
**in Manchester than in any**  
**other local authority area in**  
**England and Wales in 2017**

Start Well

Live Well

Age Well



UoM Faculty of biology,  
medicine and health

3000 staff

10,000  
students

£336m  
income

Schools Divisions	Biology 6	Medicine 6	Health 6
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9 Research Domains

Cardiovascular  
endocrine  
and  
metabolism

Infection,  
inflammation,  
immunity and  
repair

Cellular and  
development  
systems

Evolution  
systems and  
genomics

Cancer

Neuroscience  
and mental  
health

Digital  
Health

Applied  
Health

Research  
technologies



# UoM research - interface with Manchester Academic Health Science Centre

UoM Faculty of biology, medicine and health

3000 staff

10,000 students

£336m income

Schools  
Divisions

Biology  
6

Medicine  
6

Health  
6

9 Research Domains

Cardiovascular  
endocrine  
and  
metabolism

Infection,  
inflammation,  
immunity and  
repair

Cellular and  
development  
systems

Evolution  
systems and  
genomics

Cancer

Neuroscience  
and mental  
health

Digital  
Health

Applied  
Health

Research  
technologies

MAHSC domains & Trusts

Cardiovascular  
MFT

Inflammation  
and repair  
MFT

Women's and  
Children's  
MFT

Cancer  
The Christie

Mental  
Health  
MMH

Neuroscience  
SRFT

Enablers

Digital

Precision Health

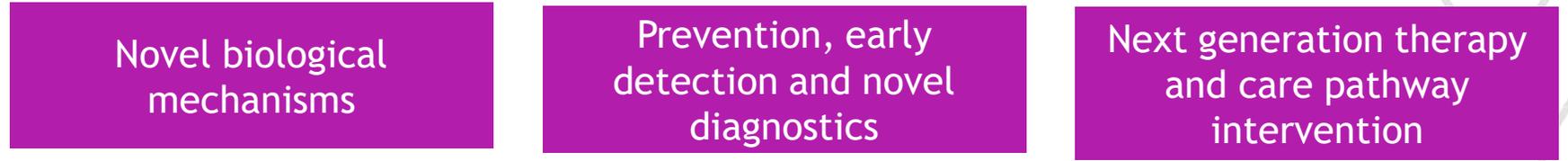
ARC



# GM Research infrastructure overview



## Priorities



## Funders



## Enablers

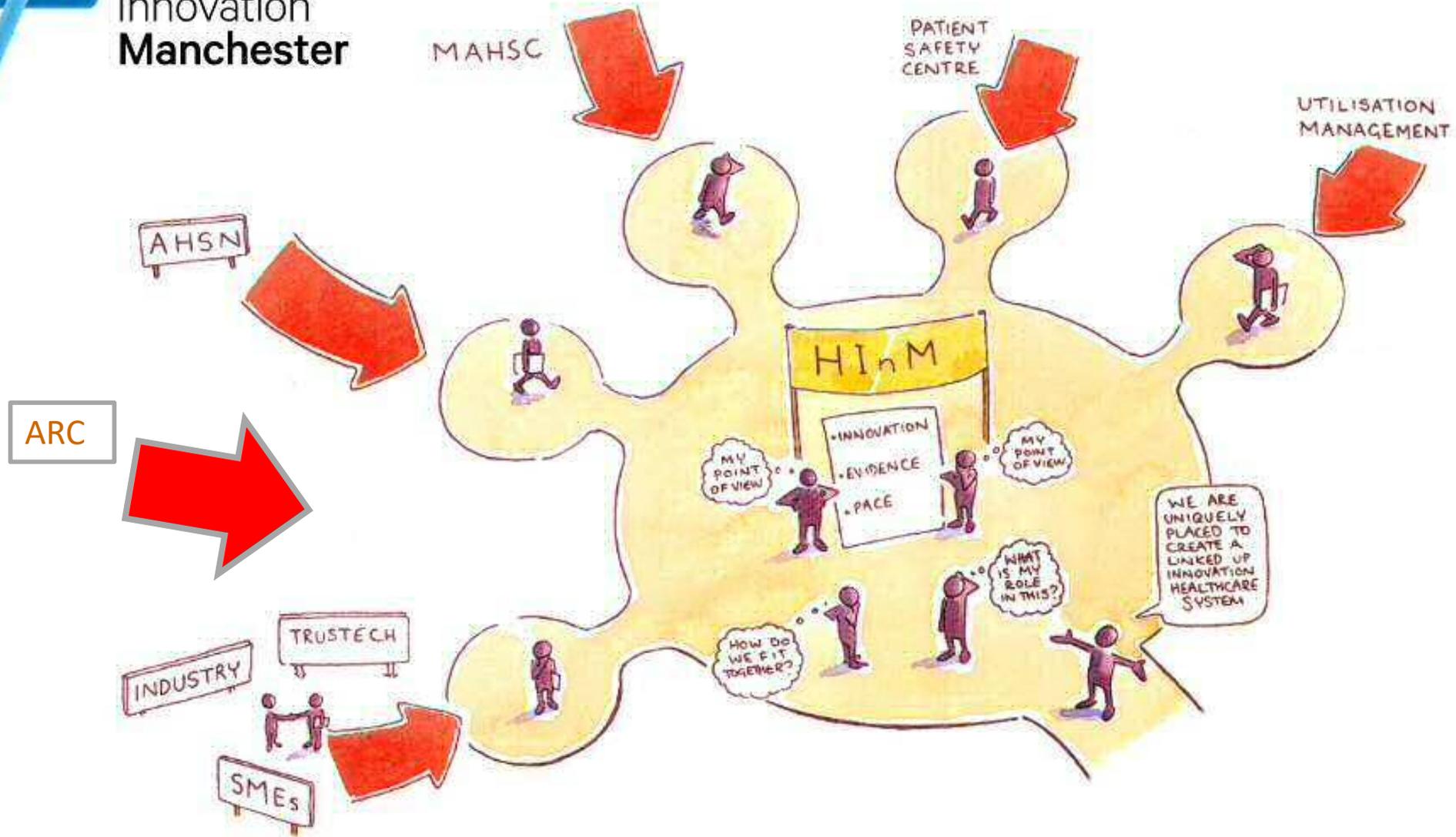


## Research-based teaching





Health  
Innovation  
**Manchester**





# Strategic aims of HInM



Ensure a constant innovation pipeline into health and social care.



Prioritise and monitor innovation activities that meet the needs of GM.



Accelerate delivery of innovation into health, care and wellness delivery.



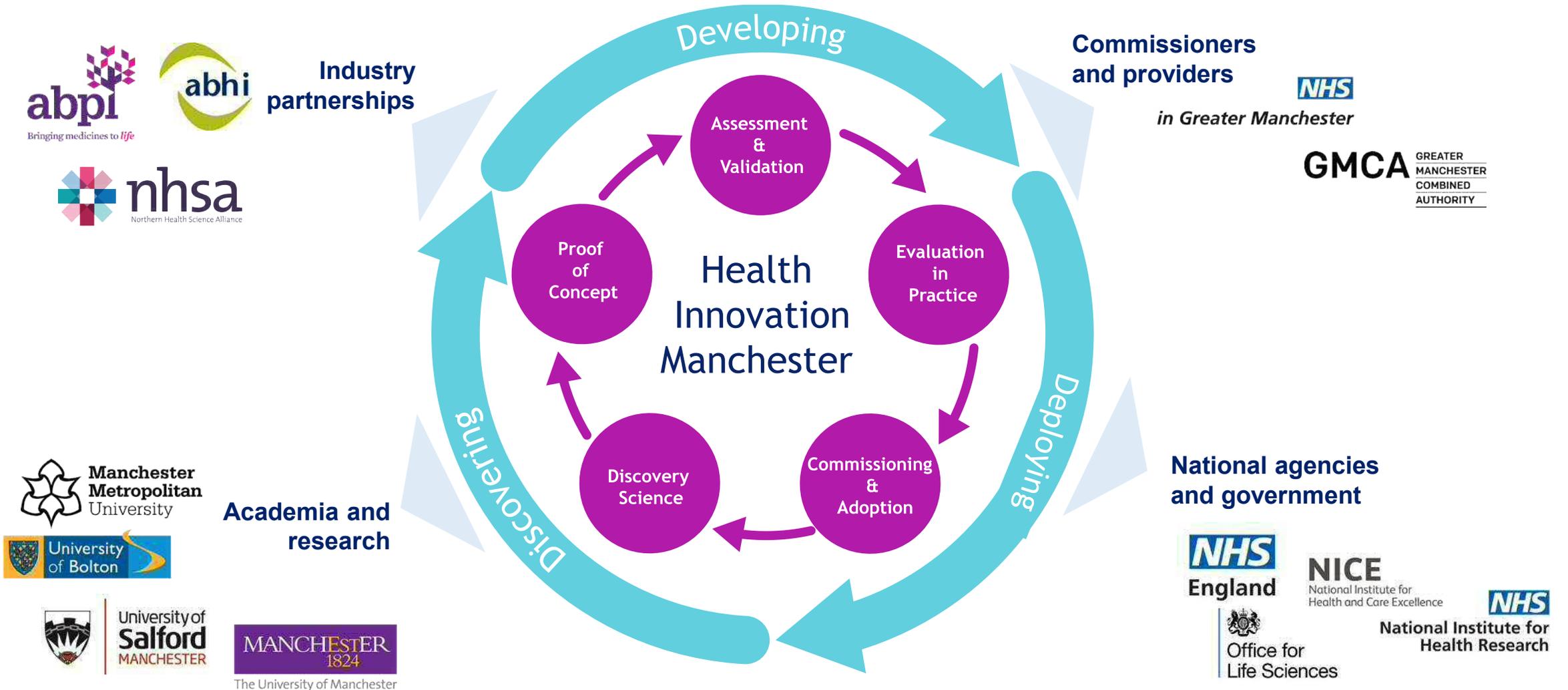
Amplify existing academic and industry value propositions.



Influence national and international policy.

# GM's academic health science innovation system

Health Innovation Manchester is a system and an organisation that represents a new way of working



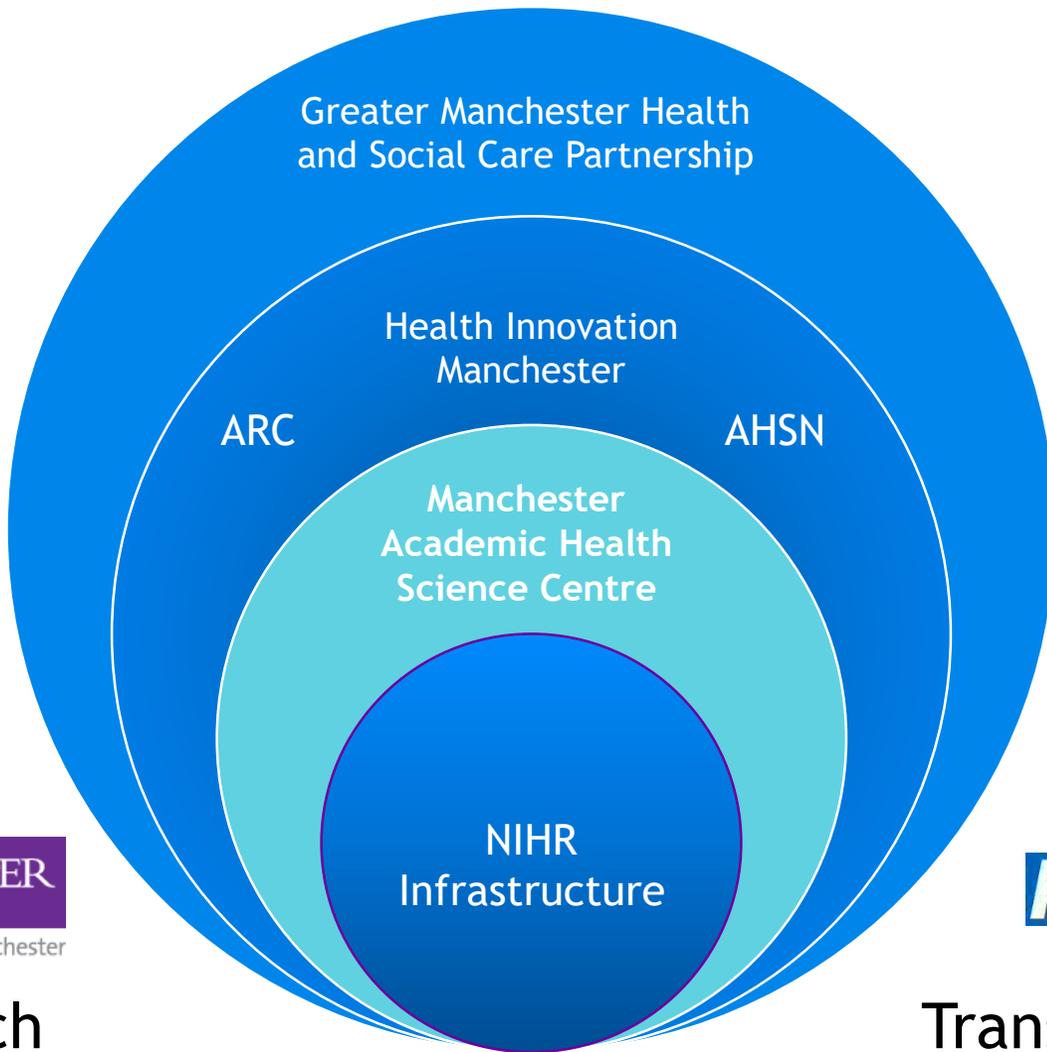


# Population Benefit and Wider Economic Gain: At Pace and Scale with Equity

**Cardiovascular Domain**  
Chair: CEO Manchester University FT (MFT)

**Inflammation & Repair Domain**  
Chair: CEO MFT

**Women & Children Domain**  
Chair: CEO MFT



**Cancer Domain**  
Chair: CEO Christie FT

**Neuroscience Domain**  
Chair: CEO Salford Royal FT

**Mental Health Domain**  
Chair: CEO GM Mental Health FT



Research  
Power



Translational  
Excellence

Citizen involvement

# Relationship between NICE & University of Manchester research can be synergistic: Here's how!

Prof. Colm Leonard

Consultant Clinical Adviser, NICE Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

Consultant Thoracic Physician/Honorary Professor of Respiratory Medicine  
Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Colm.Leonard@nice.org.uk](mailto:Colm.Leonard@nice.org.uk); [Colm.Leonard@Manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Colm.Leonard@Manchester.ac.uk)



---

**NICE**

# Where might synergy be relevant?

- Grant applications, review, follow-on applications
- Career & personal development (committee membership)
- NICE has an international reach (Network-building potential)
- Benefitting from and/or contributing to NICE's expertise/work in Real World Evidence & other research priorities
- Medtech database of emerging new medical technologies (Health Tech Connect)

# Grants- not just about NICE-identified evidence gaps

- Academic in University of St Elsewhere submitting grant application to UK funding body for rare neurological disease
- A trial embedded in this of a repurposed drug for rare disease exploring some biomarkers and tolerability and proof of concept
- Contacts NICE & leads to discussion with NICE Scientific advice around how to think beyond the grant if pilot trial successful & what type of help/input NICE could offer with next stage of evidence generation
- Successful grant and feedback to Academic was very positive about engagement with NICE

# Career development & Network building

- Committee membership (technology appraisals, Medtech, diagnostics, interventional procedures, clinical guidelines...), or informal clinical adviser on relevant topics
- NICE Fellows and Scholars Programme

Home > Get involved

# Fellows



Are you an experienced leader in health and social care? Could you build an influential network that helps us to implement our guidance?

NICE fellows are experienced leaders from the field of health and social care who are our ambassadors at regional and national levels.

Applications for 2020 are now closed. Recruitment will open again in September 2020.

Home > Get involved

# Scholars



Would you like the opportunity to improve the quality of care and contribute to your professional development?

NICE Scholarships are one-year opportunities to find out about the inner workings of NICE. You'd undertake a supported improvement project, related to our guidance, within a local organisation, national charity or voluntary sector organisation.

[View examples of potential projects \(word\)](#) that might be suitable activities for scholars.

Applications for 2020 are now closed. Recruitment will open again in September 2020.

# Career development & Networking – a personal experience

- Case example: clinician/honorary academic & Clinical adviser to NICE CHTE (core role is filtering new pharma products for potential technology appraisal & providing clinical advice to Medtech programme)
- Due to Clinical & NICE role- asked to contribute to UK work on novel value assessment & delinked reimbursement to incentivise antibiotic development pipeline
- Speaking engagements internationally (NICE reach is very broad)
- Now clinical lead for UK AMR project to develop & test novel value assessment & reimbursement for new antimicrobials
- Invited onto consortium for EU-funded (>Euro 10 million) multicountry research project called VALUE-Dx looking at novel assessment of diagnostics in community respiratory infection



VALIDATING DIAGNOSTICS TO  
**COMBAT ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE**  
BY OPTIMISING ANTIBIOTIC USE

 [WWW.VALUE-DX.EU](http://WWW.VALUE-DX.EU)

Copyright 2019 VALUE-DX

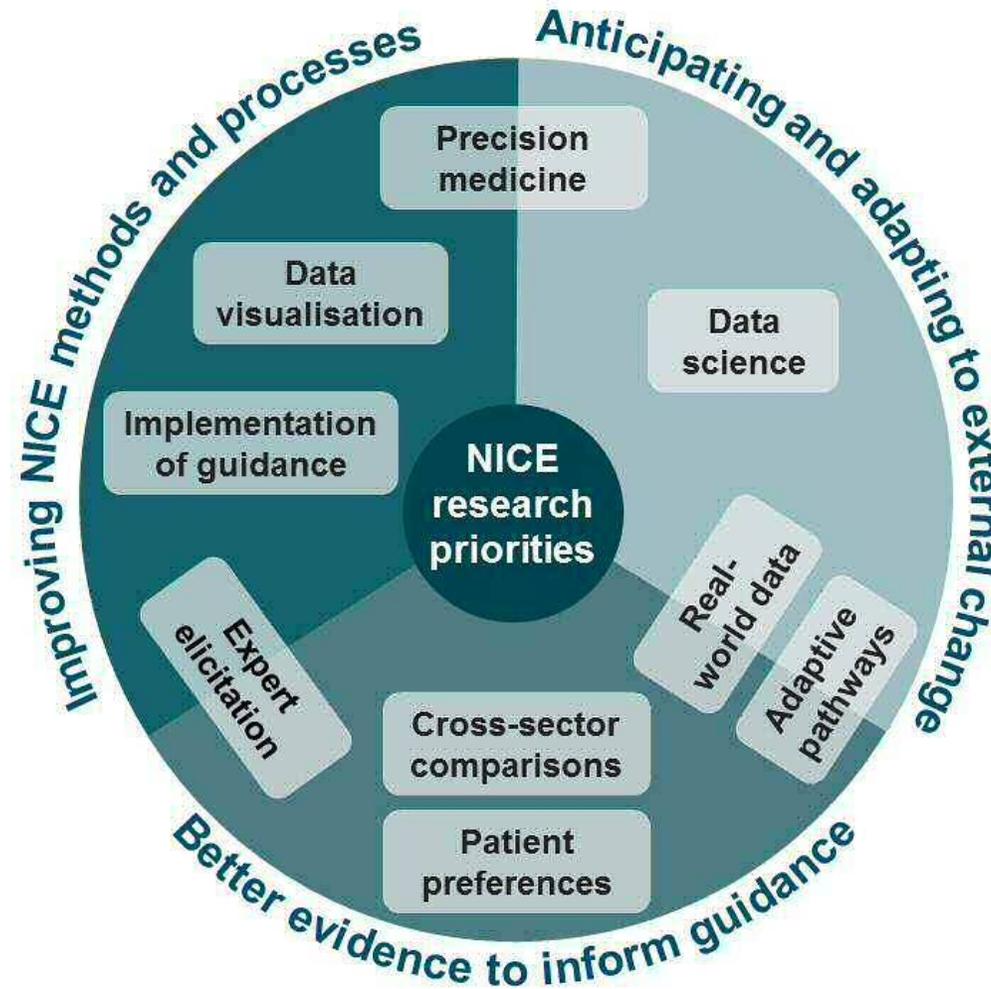
This project has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking under grant agreement No 820755. This Joint Undertaking receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and EFPIA and bioMérieux SA, Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, Accelerate Diagnostics S.L., Abbott, Bio-Rad Laboratories, BD Switzerland Sàrl, and The Wellcome Trust Limited.



 [www.imi.europa.eu](http://www.imi.europa.eu)

 [www.value-dx.eu](http://www.value-dx.eu)

# NICE's priority research areas



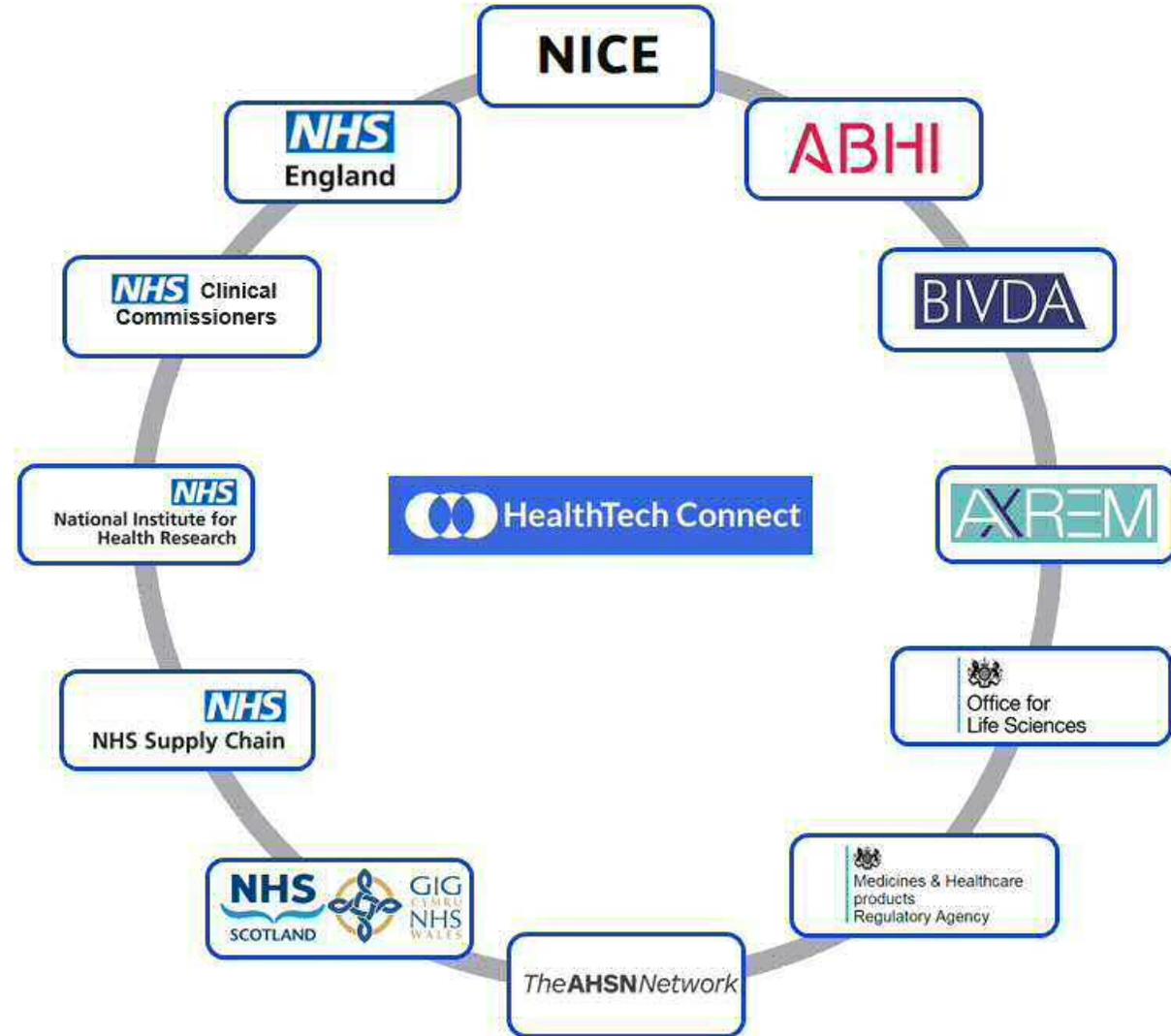
More info: <https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/our-research-work/methodological-research-areas>

# What is HealthTech Connect?

- A secure online system [www.healthtechconnect.org.uk](http://www.healthtechconnect.org.uk)
  - store and maintain data
  - find accurate information
  - access national programmes and support
  - reduces duplication
  - streamlines processes
- Its not a catalogue
- For technologies with measurable additional benefits (in comparison to routine practice)

# What is HealthTech Connect?

- Funded by NHS England
- Developed and hosted by NICE
- Developed in partnership with:
  - Innovators
  - National organisations
  - Trade associations



**Launched in  
April 2019**

**Over 600  
registered users...**



**...have submitted  
160 technologies**

**65% selected**

### Health technology assessment

Assessment of the evidence to provide the health and care system with

- Guidance
- Policies
- Advice



### Help and Support

- Funding
- Commercialisation
- Clinical & academic expertise
- Economics
- Evidence generation
- Validation
- Spread & adoption



**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

*The AHSN Network*

**NIHR** | National Institute for Health Research

**NHS**  
Supply Chain



**Technoleg Iechyd Cymru**  
Health Technology Wales



Hwb Gwyddorau Bywyd | Cymru  
Life Sciences Hub | Wales



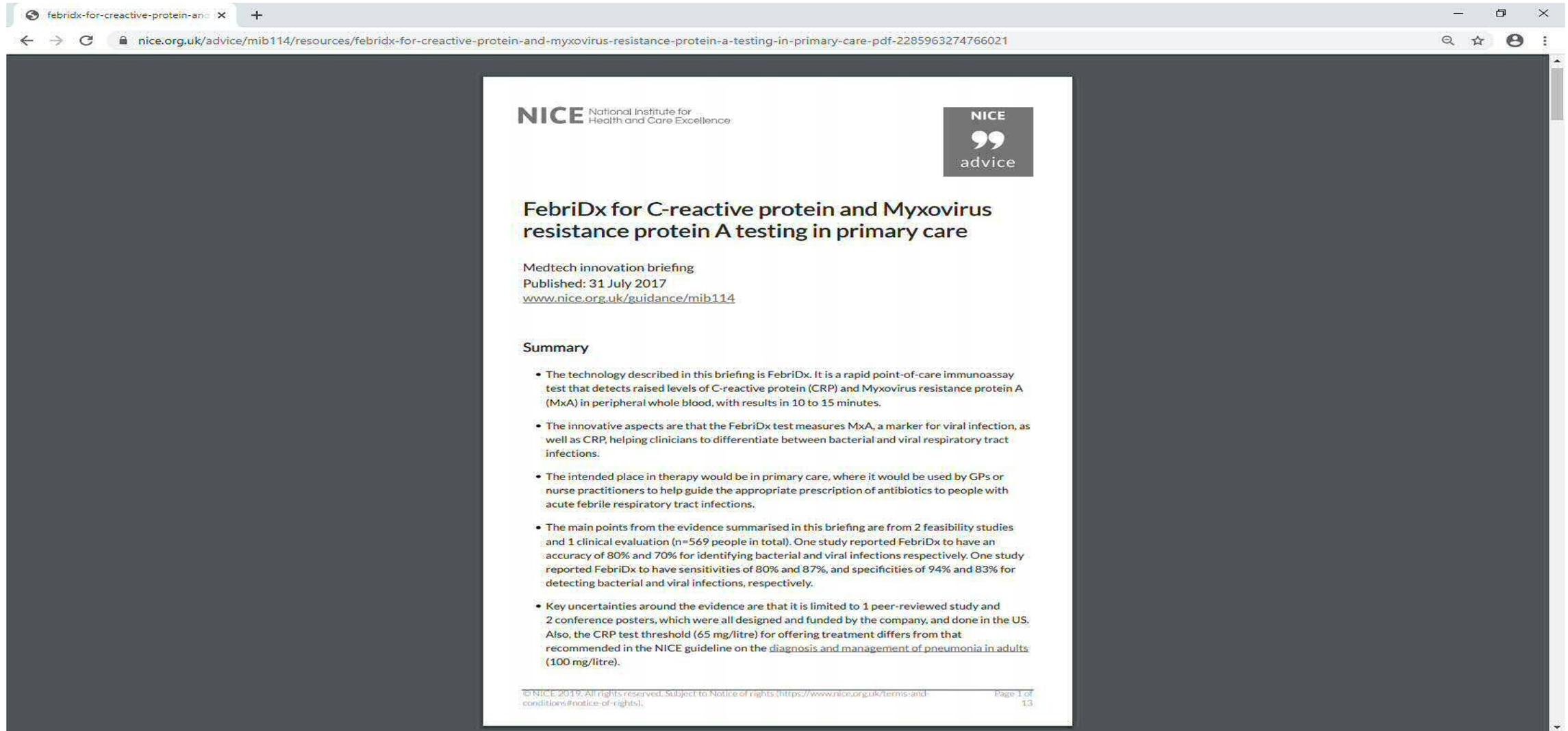
**GIG Cymru NHS Wales**  
Tim Gwasanaethau Iechyd Arbenigol Cymru  
Welsh Health Specialised Services Team



Department for International Trade

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

# NICE Medtech Innovation briefing



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying the URL: [nice.org.uk/advice/mib114/resources/febridx-for-creactive-protein-and-myxovirus-resistance-protein-a-testing-in-primary-care-pdf-2285963274766021](https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/mib114/resources/febridx-for-creactive-protein-and-myxovirus-resistance-protein-a-testing-in-primary-care-pdf-2285963274766021). The page content includes the NICE logo (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) and a 'NICE advice' icon. The main title is 'FebriDx for C-reactive protein and Myxovirus resistance protein A testing in primary care'. Below the title, it is identified as a 'Medtech innovation briefing' published on 31 July 2017, with a link to the full document. A 'Summary' section follows, containing five bullet points that describe the technology, its innovative aspects, intended use in primary care, evidence from feasibility studies and clinical evaluations, and key uncertainties. The footer contains copyright information for NICE 2019 and a page number of 13.

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

**NICE**  
advice

## FebriDx for C-reactive protein and Myxovirus resistance protein A testing in primary care

Medtech innovation briefing  
Published: 31 July 2017  
[www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mib114](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mib114)

### Summary

- The technology described in this briefing is FebriDx. It is a rapid point-of-care immunoassay test that detects raised levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) and Myxovirus resistance protein A (MxA) in peripheral whole blood, with results in 10 to 15 minutes.
- The innovative aspects are that the FebriDx test measures MxA, a marker for viral infection, as well as CRP, helping clinicians to differentiate between bacterial and viral respiratory tract infections.
- The intended place in therapy would be in primary care, where it would be used by GPs or nurse practitioners to help guide the appropriate prescription of antibiotics to people with acute febrile respiratory tract infections.
- The main points from the evidence summarised in this briefing are from 2 feasibility studies and 1 clinical evaluation (n=569 people in total). One study reported FebriDx to have an accuracy of 80% and 70% for identifying bacterial and viral infections respectively. One study reported FebriDx to have sensitivities of 80% and 87%, and specificities of 94% and 83% for detecting bacterial and viral infections, respectively.
- Key uncertainties around the evidence are that it is limited to 1 peer-reviewed study and 2 conference posters, which were all designed and funded by the company, and done in the US. Also, the CRP test threshold (65 mg/litre) for offering treatment differs from that recommended in the NICE guideline on the diagnosis and management of pneumonia in adults (100 mg/litre).

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## Viral or Bacterial Infection?

The symptoms can be very similar.

An acute respiratory infection (ARI) is the most common single reason for **outpatient office visits** and **antibiotic prescriptions**.<sup>15</sup>

More than **90%** of patients who present to their healthcare providers with the most common symptom of an ARI—an acute cough—have a syndrome caused by a **virus**.<sup>6,7</sup>

Unnecessary use of antibiotics leads to **antibiotic resistance**, causing more than **25,000 deaths** in the EU, and 700,000 globally.<sup>8,9</sup> Antibiotic resistance results in costs over €1.5 billion in the EU and \$20 billion in the U.S. annually.<sup>12,8</sup>

WHAT IF  
THERE WAS A RAPID TEST  
TO DIFFERENTIATE A  
VIRAL FROM A BACTERIAL  
INFECTION?

## Introducing FebriDx<sup>®</sup> Point-of-Care Test Device

The **first and only** rapid, all-in-one point-of-care test device that can identify a clinically significant acute respiratory infection and differentiate viral from bacterial causes.

FebriDx<sup>®</sup> can be used to help triage patients at the point of care to reduce uncertainty and avoid unnecessary antibiotics.

- **Results within 10 minutes** increases confidence in whether or not to prescribe an antibiotic.
- **All-in-one test device** allows doctors or nurses to test during triage.
- **Instrument-free** means no expensive equipment and a fully portable solution.
- **Highly sensitive/specific dual biomarker technology** provides reliable differentiation of viral and bacterial infections.

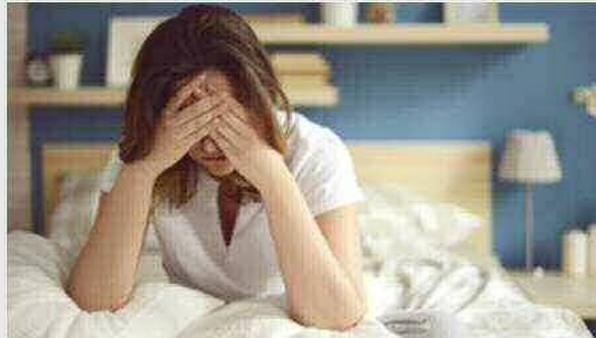




[Researchers wanted to study the public's views of health-related quality of life](#)

Applications close on Wednesday 4 March 2020

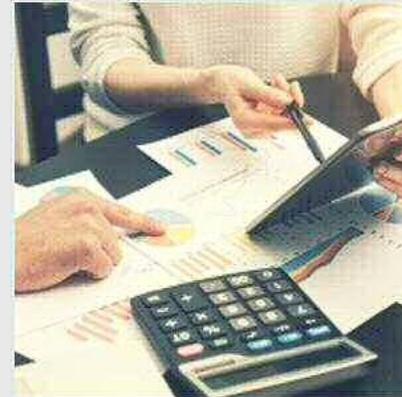
12 February 2020



[Appeal panel rules that NICE needs to request evidence for erenumab effectiveness in subgroup of people with chronic migraine](#)

NICE has today (4 February 2020) published the outcome of the appeal against its final draft guidance (FAD) on erenumab (also called Aimovig and made by Novartis) for preventing chronic migraine.

04 February 2020



[Broader types of data to be used in development of NICE guidance](#)

An expanded evidence base could allow NICE to address evidence gaps and enhance reviews of the impact of our guidance

04 February 2020

# Summary

- Various synergies around grants (NICE evidence gaps; NICE letters of support; looking beyond grant with NICE Scientific advice)
- Career development, personal development & networking (committees, advisers, fellows, scholars)
- Clinical excellence awards- NICE involvement helps!
- NICE has abroad remit (pharmaceuticals, MedTech, Clinical Guidelines, Public Health, Social Care, interventional procedures)
- NICE has expertise in real world evidence & other research areas
- NICE has an international reach & brand strength

[Colm.Leonard@nice.org.uk](mailto:Colm.Leonard@nice.org.uk); [Colm.Leonard@Manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Colm.Leonard@Manchester.ac.uk)

# NICE Guidance on Sunlight Exposure: Risks and Benefits (NG34)

Ann R. Webb

Lesley Rhodes

University of Manchester

# NICE Public Health Advisory Committee on Sunlight and Vitamin D

Member of PHAC – Professor Lesley Rhodes

**Overview:** This guideline covers how to communicate the risks and benefits of natural sunlight exposure (specifically, the ultraviolet rays UVA and UVB) to help people understand why they may need to modify their behaviour to reduce their risk of skin cancer and vitamin D deficiency.

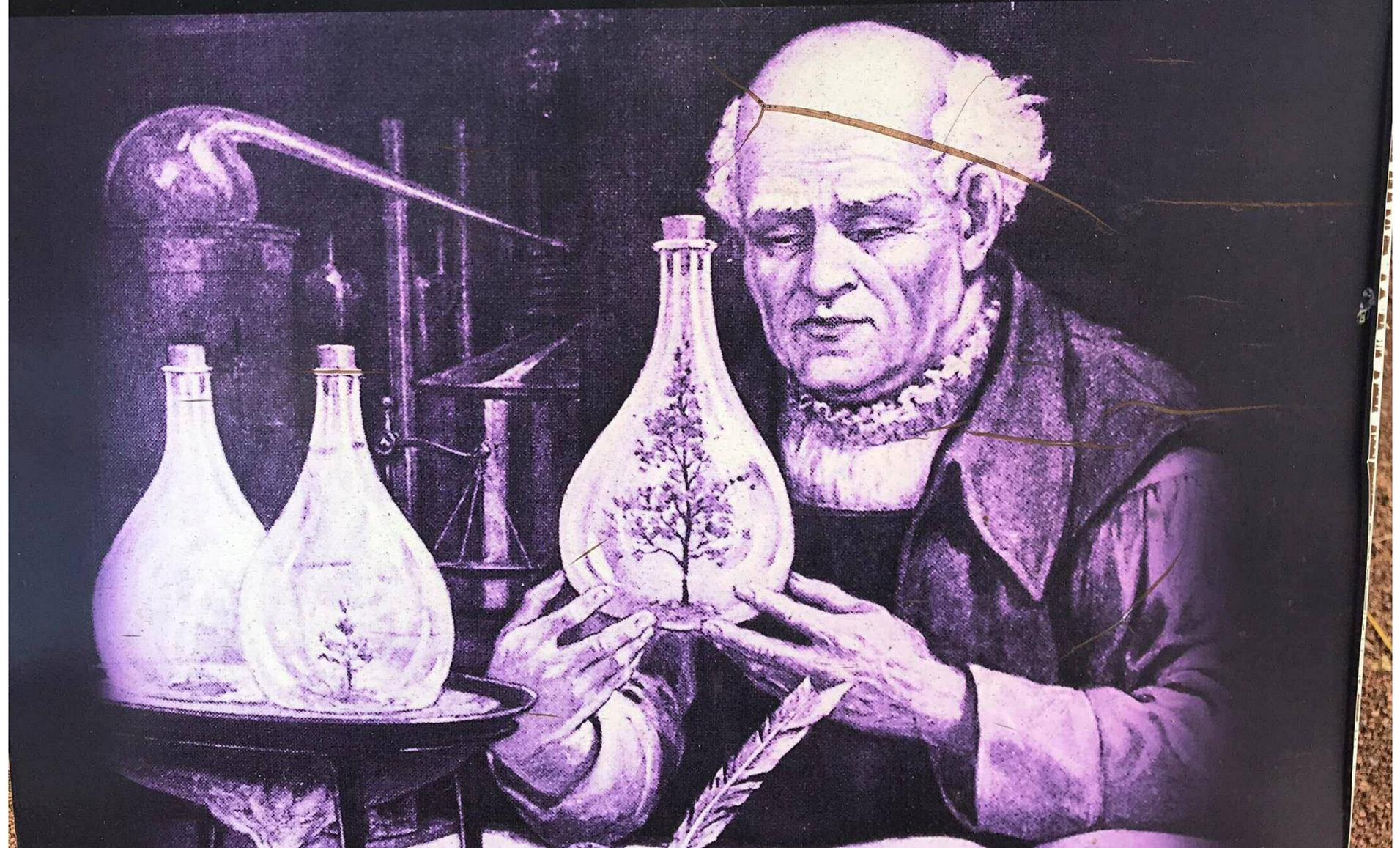
This guideline replaces recommendations 1–5 in skin cancer prevention NICE guideline PH32 (2011). The guideline should be read together with NICE's guideline on vitamin D: increasing supplement use among at-risk groups and any recommendations made by the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) on vitamin D (input from Professor Ann Webb)

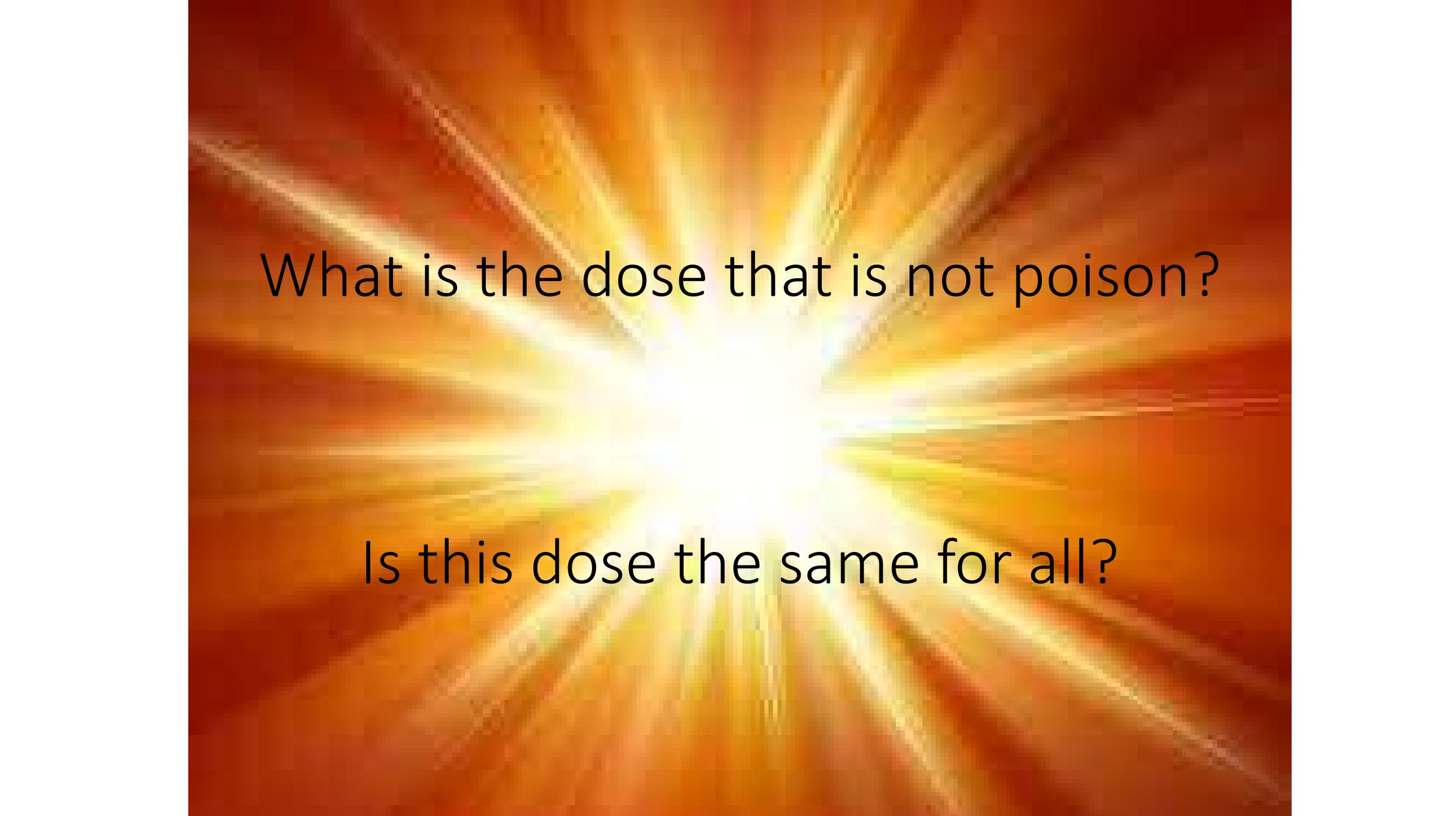
Paracelso:

“... sólo la dosis determina que una cosa no sea un veneno.”

Paracelsus: “...only the dose permits something not to be poison.”

Paracelsus: “... allein die Dosis machts, dass ein Ding kein Gift sei.”



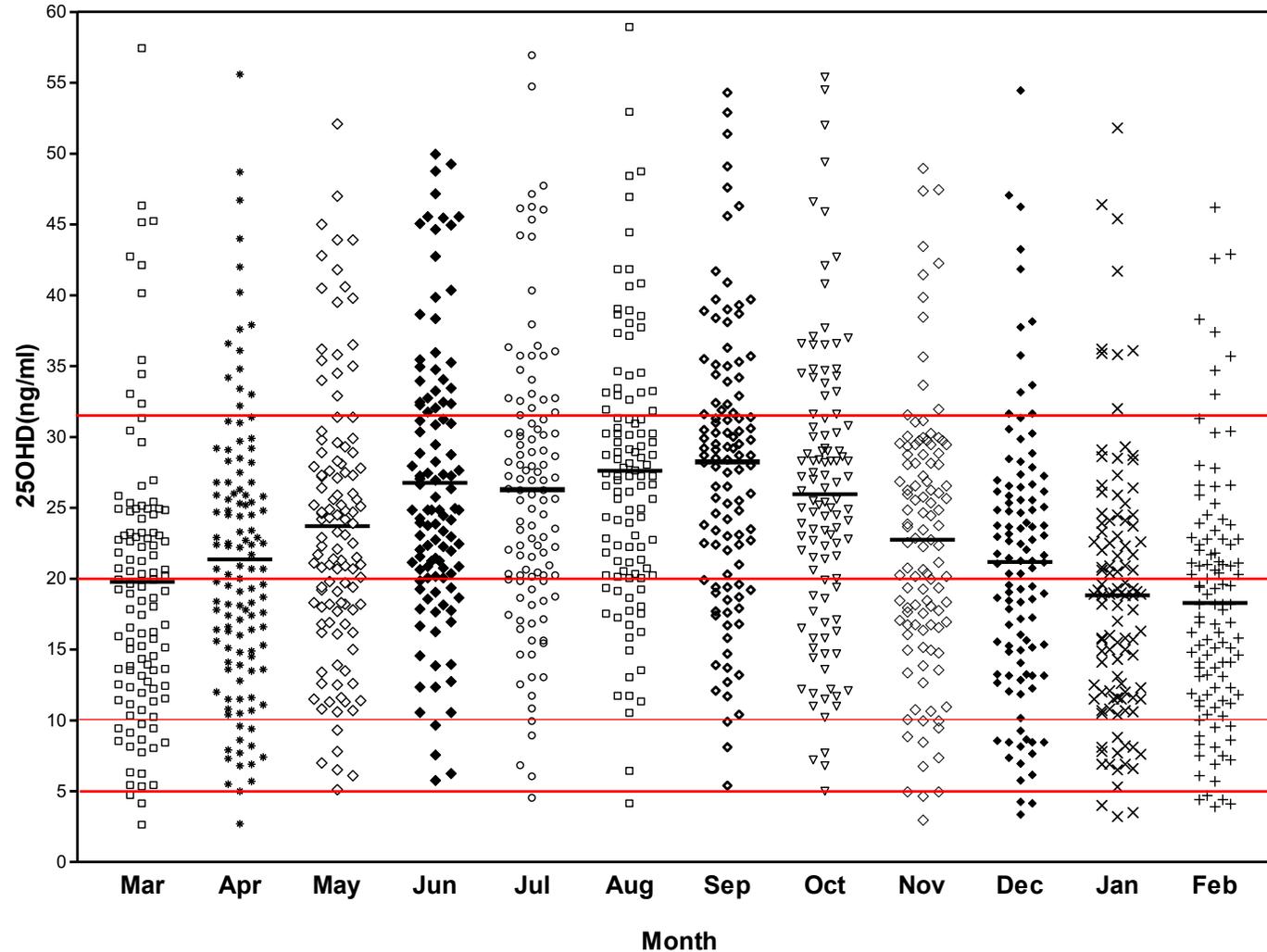


What is the dose that is not poison?

Is this dose the same for all?

# Vitamin D levels by month

Annual variation of 25OHD in observation study



## Example of white Caucasian adults

Data from Manchester, UK.

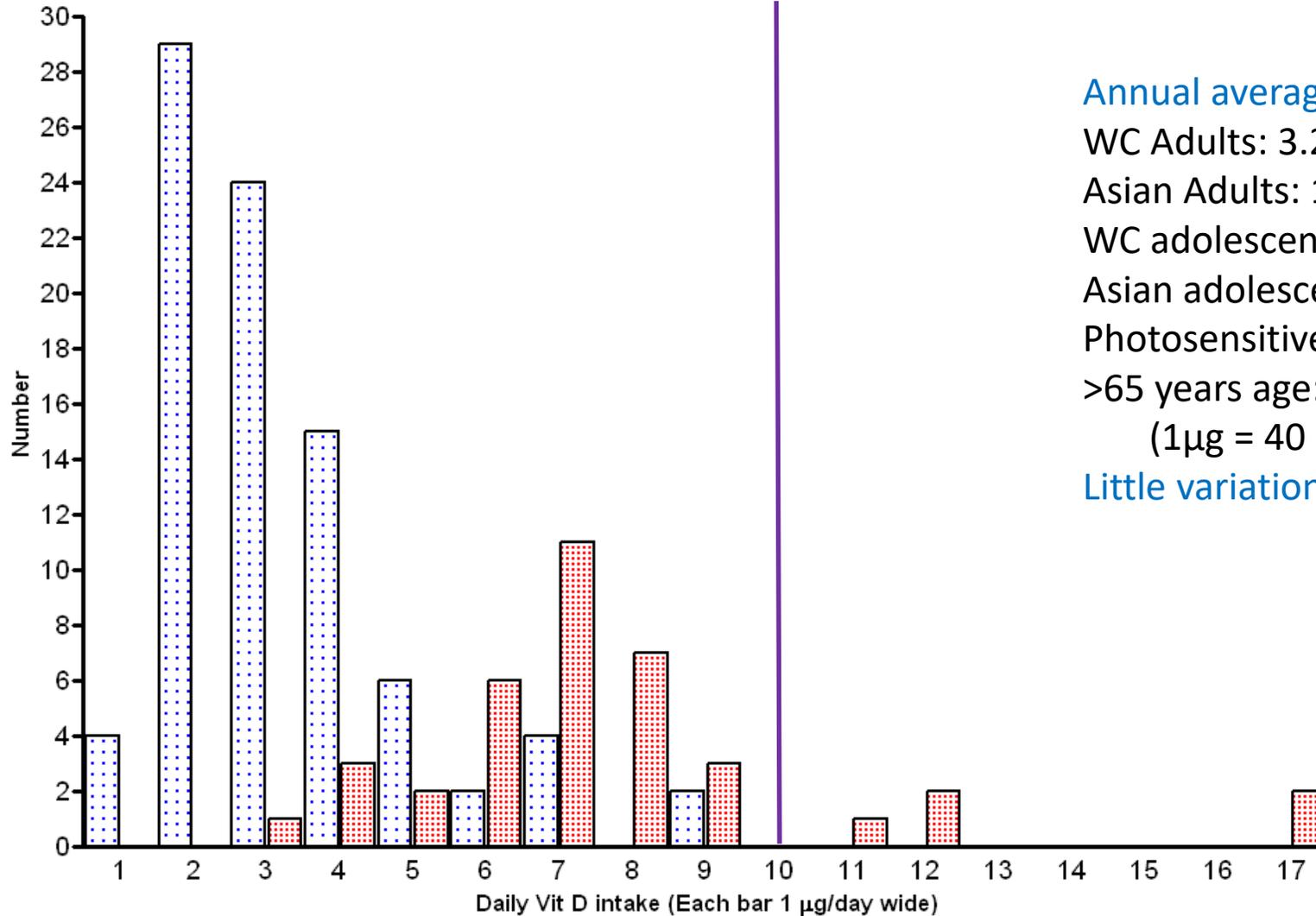
Amplitude of seasonal cycle in median 25OHD levels is about 10 ng/ml (25 nmol/L), with maximum in September and minimum in February.

Red lines at 5, 10, 20 and 32 ng/ml  
12.5, 25, 50 and 80 nmol/L

*Webb et al. (2010) BJD 163; 1050-1055*

# Dietary intake – low!

Observation study: Daily average dietary Vit D intake( $\mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ )



Annual average daily intake ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ )

WC Adults: 3.27

Asian Adults: 1.32

WC adolescents: 1.92

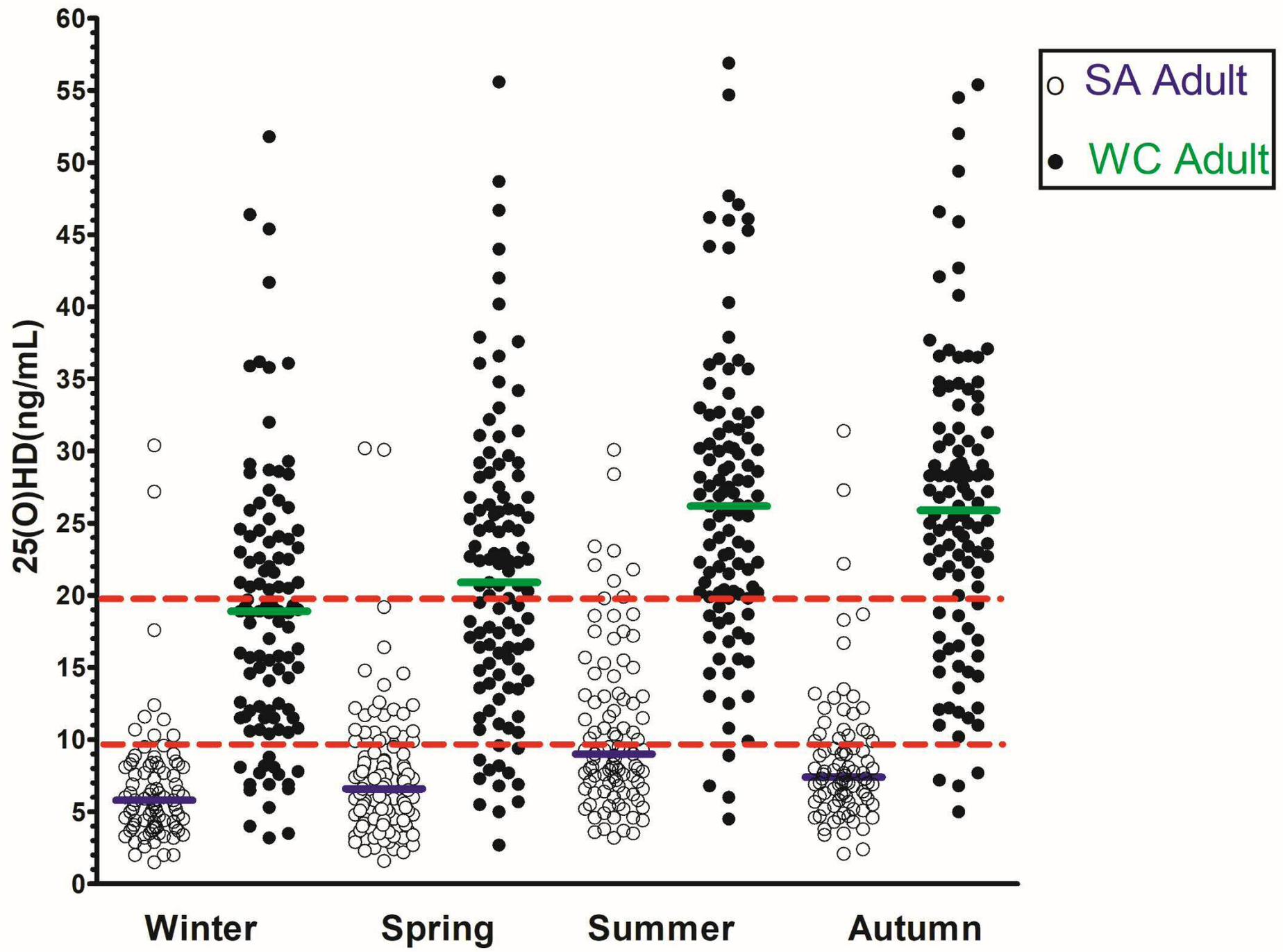
Asian adolescents: 1.75

Photosensitive: 3.25

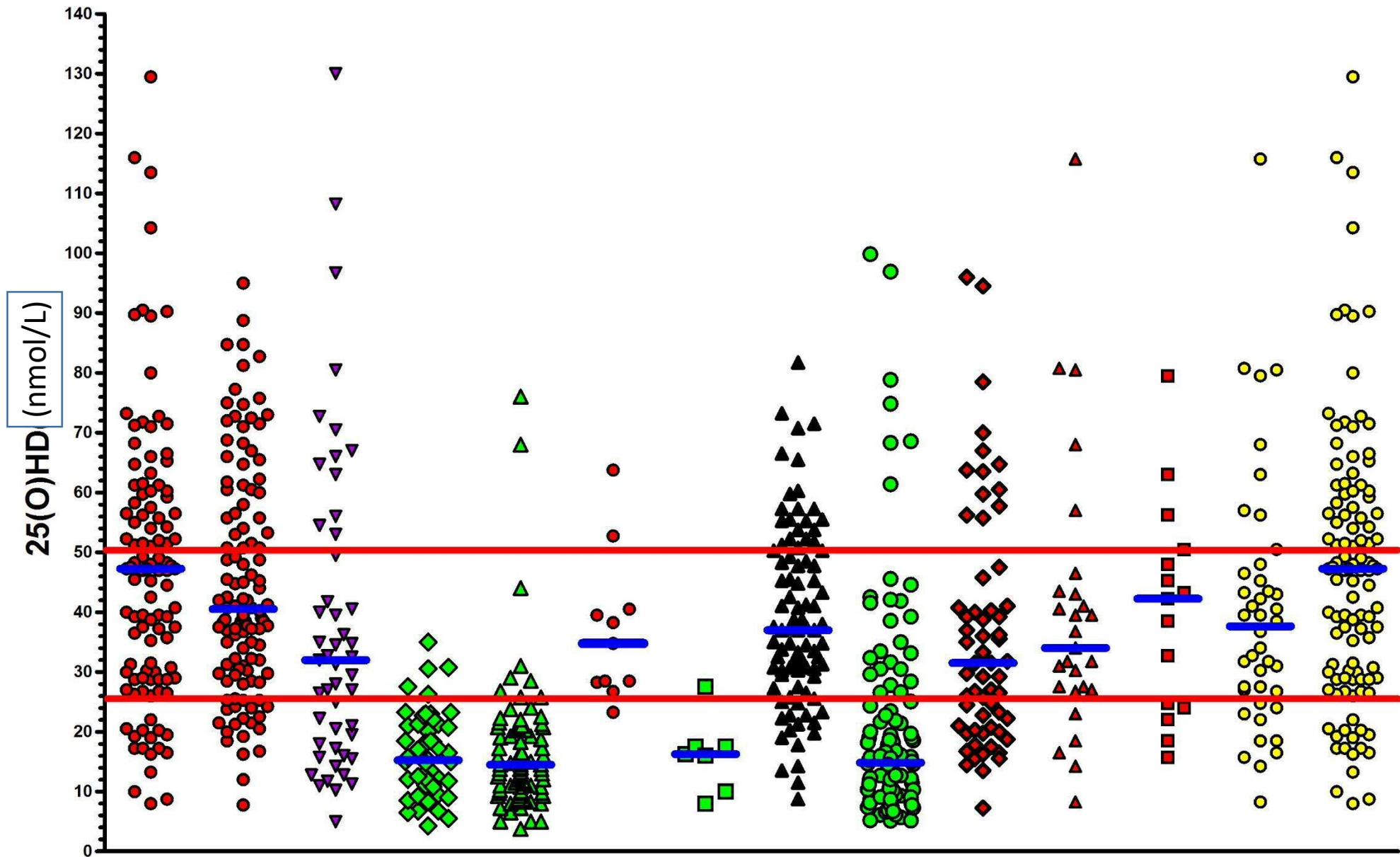
>65 years age: < 5

(1  $\mu\text{g}$  = 40 iu)

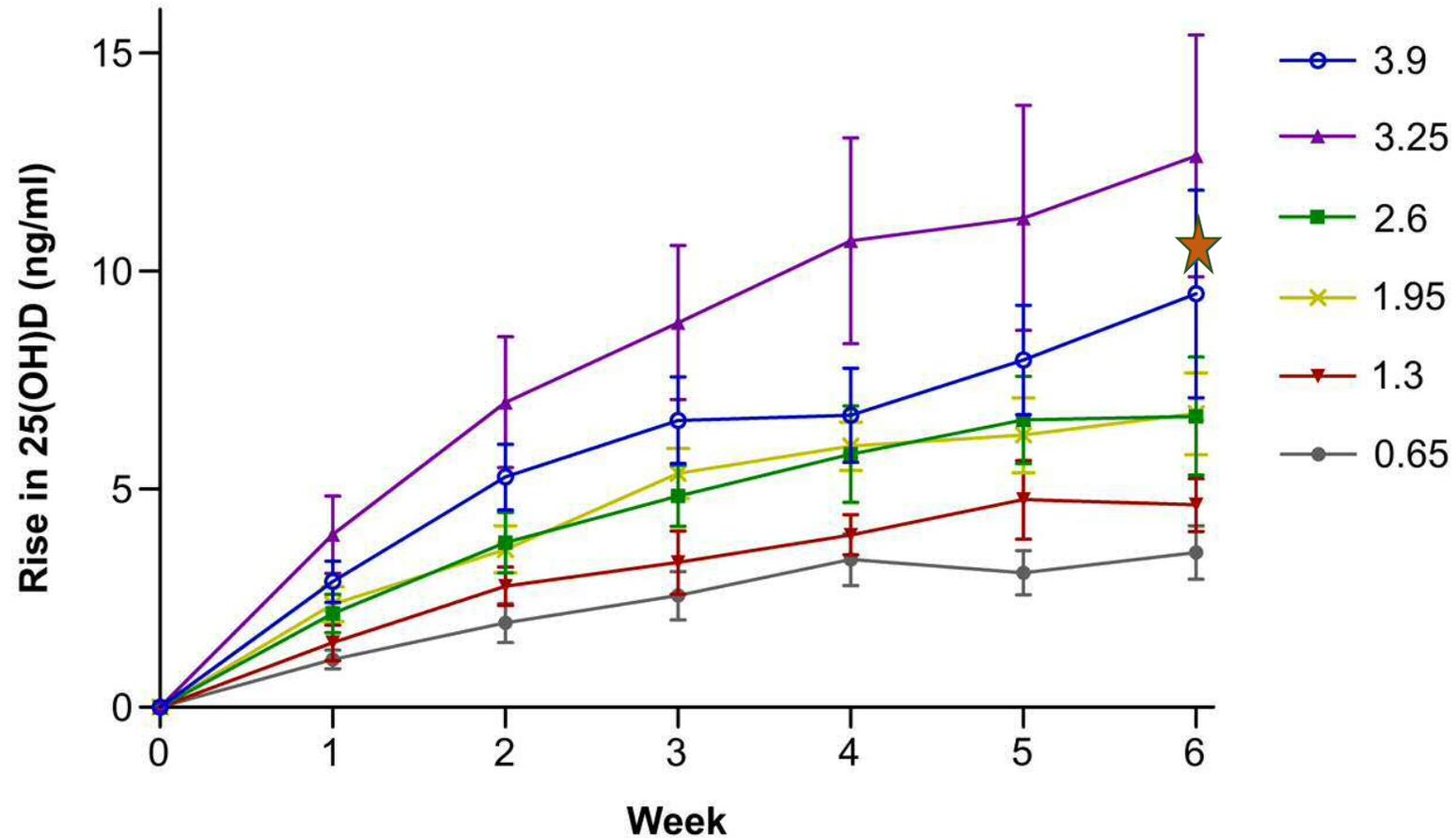
Little variation with season



Plot of 25(O)HD levels in Winter (i.e. Minimum) for all studies (Median shown)



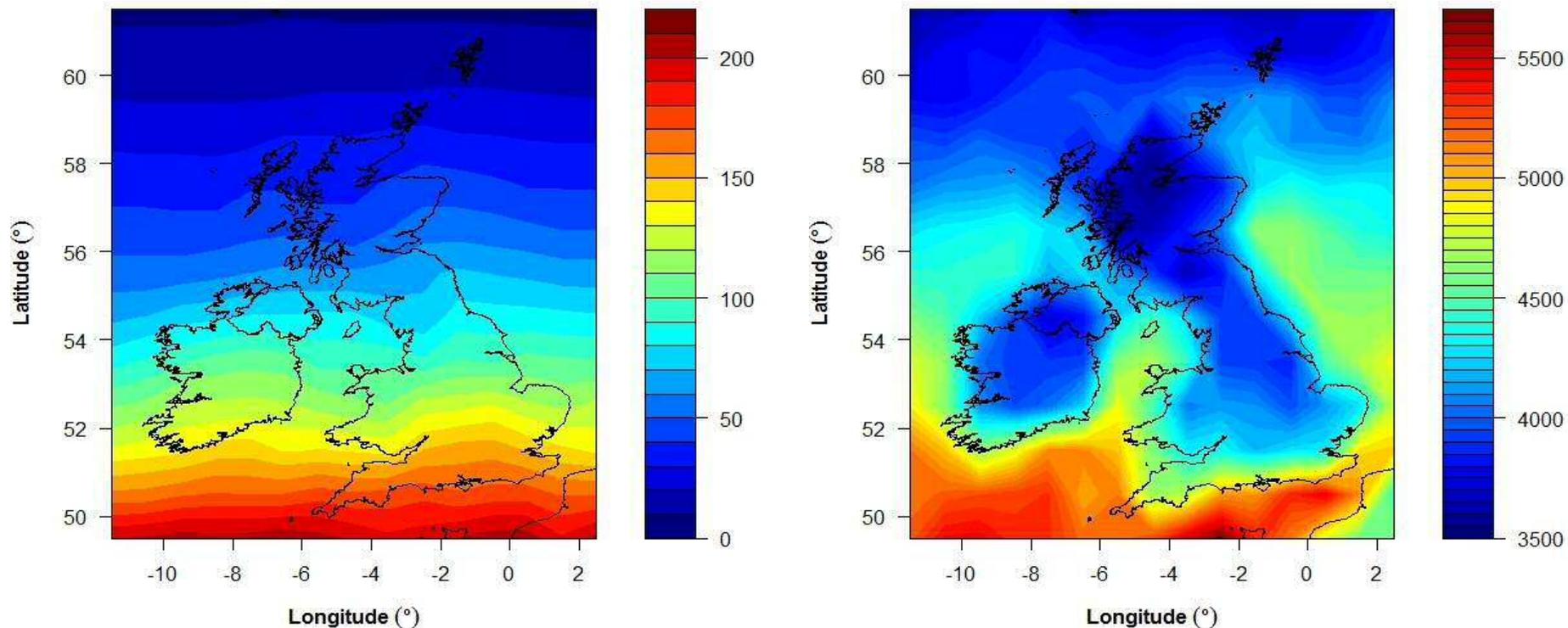
# Effect of skin pigmentation, controlled exposures, skin type V, ★ skin type II/III



# UK climatology (expectation)



Pre-vitamin D weighted, monthly average of daily UV ( $\text{Jm}^{-2}$ ) for period 2003-2012, inputs ozone, cloud, aerosol, albedo and elevation. January (LHS) and July (RHS)



# A pragmatic approach

- How much vitamin D do we need?

*97.5% population > 25 nmol/L by end February (SACN)*

- How much sun exposure required to make this amount of vitamin D?

*Safety criteria: <1 SED per day at any time and place*

- Can we achieve this level of exposure?

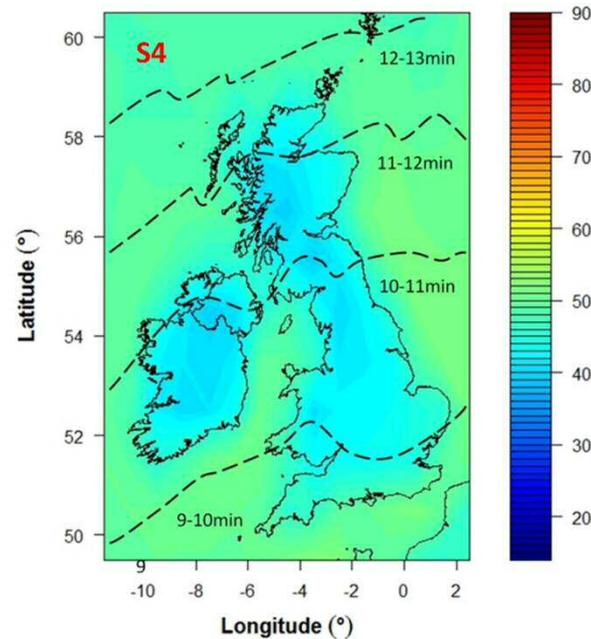
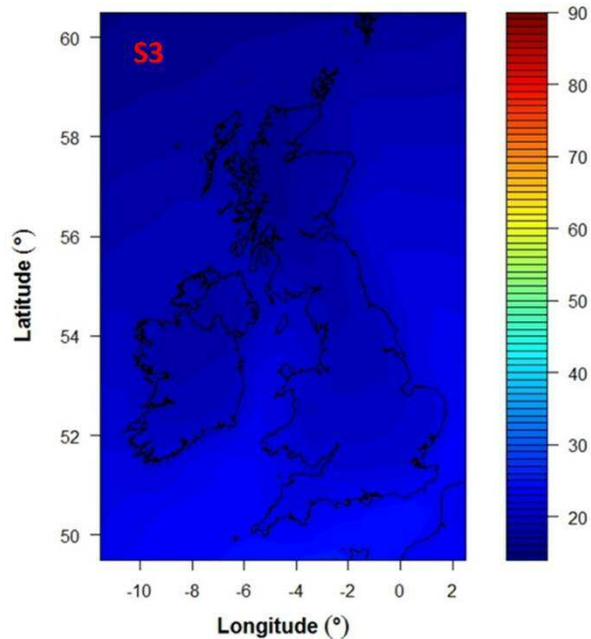
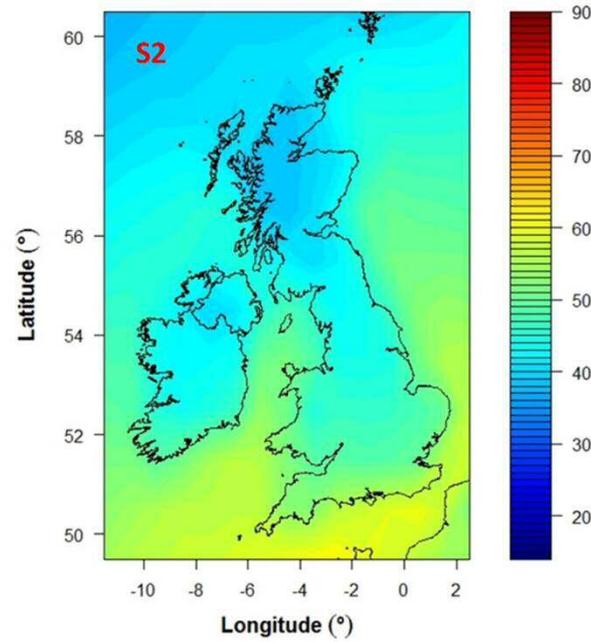
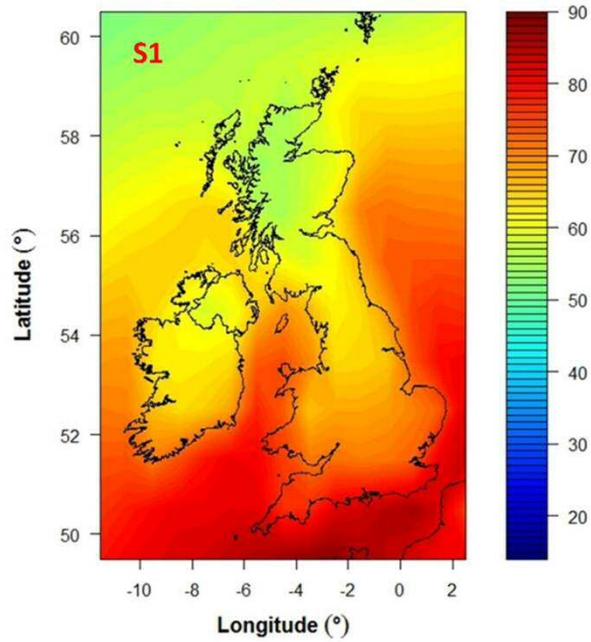
*Yes, in principle*

*9 (25) minutes at lunchtime every day in season appropriate clothing*

*Realistically, 10-15 (25-40) minutes.*

- Do we achieve this level of exposure?

*Data from sub-sets of the Manchester population*



UV climatology 2003-2012  
 Summer half year (March-September)  
 Total for 9 minutes at solar noon every  
 day (units SED)

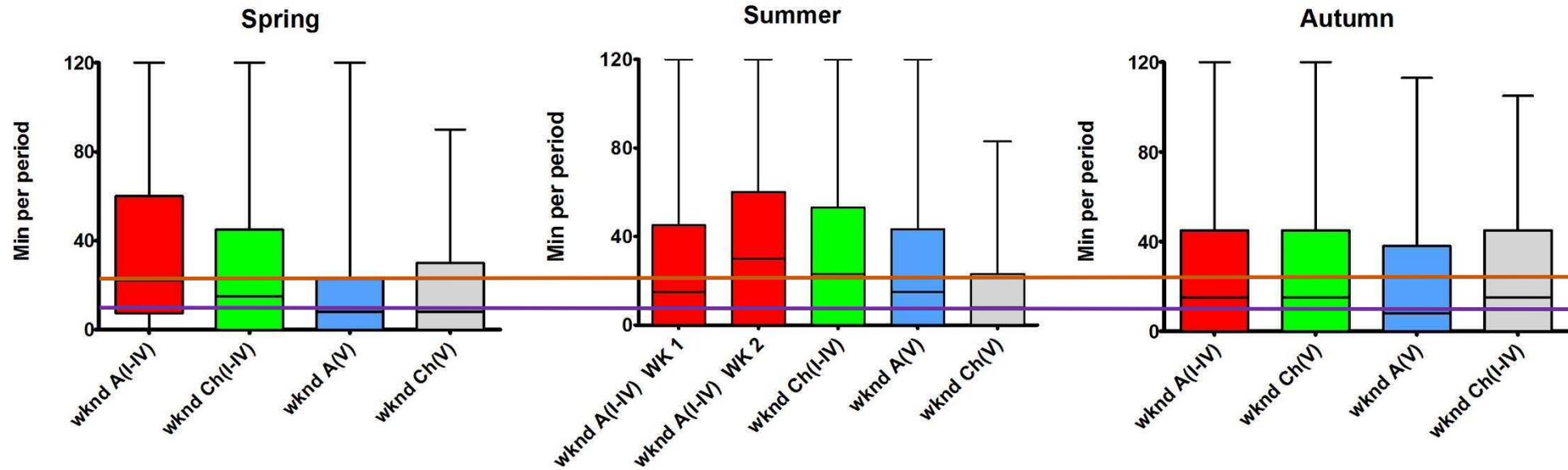
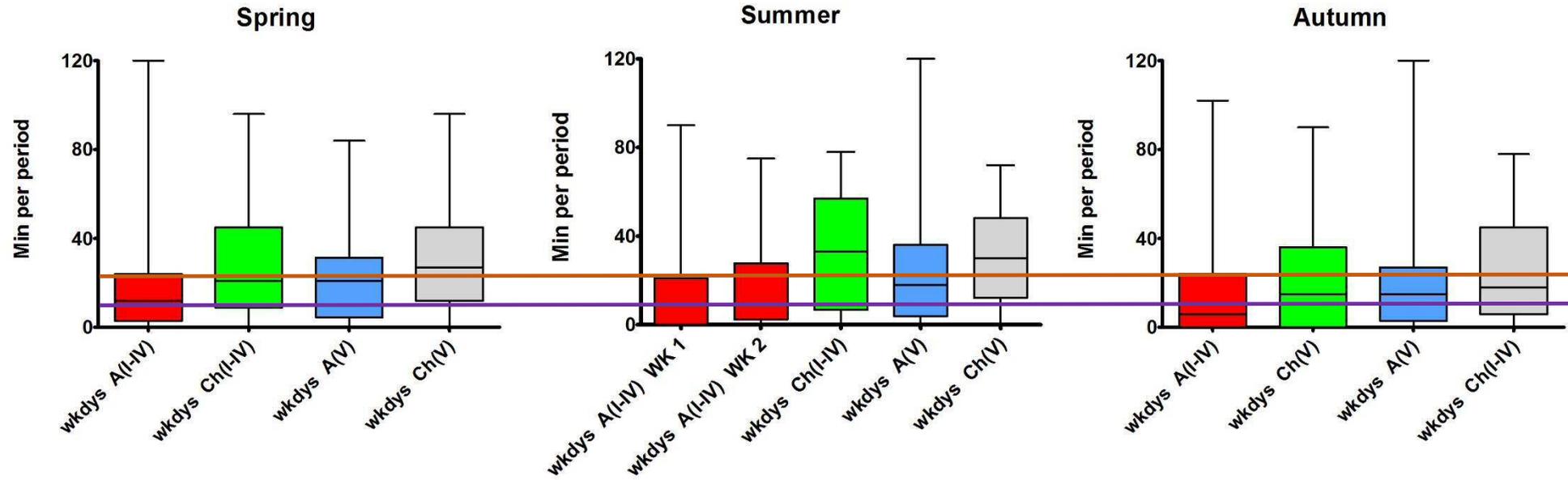
Weighted by skin area exposed:  
 S1 35% skin area all summer  
 S2 35% June-August, 10% otherwise  
 S3 10% skin area all summer

S4 June-August total, 35% skin area,  
 exposure time for 1SED on clear day at  
 summer solstice

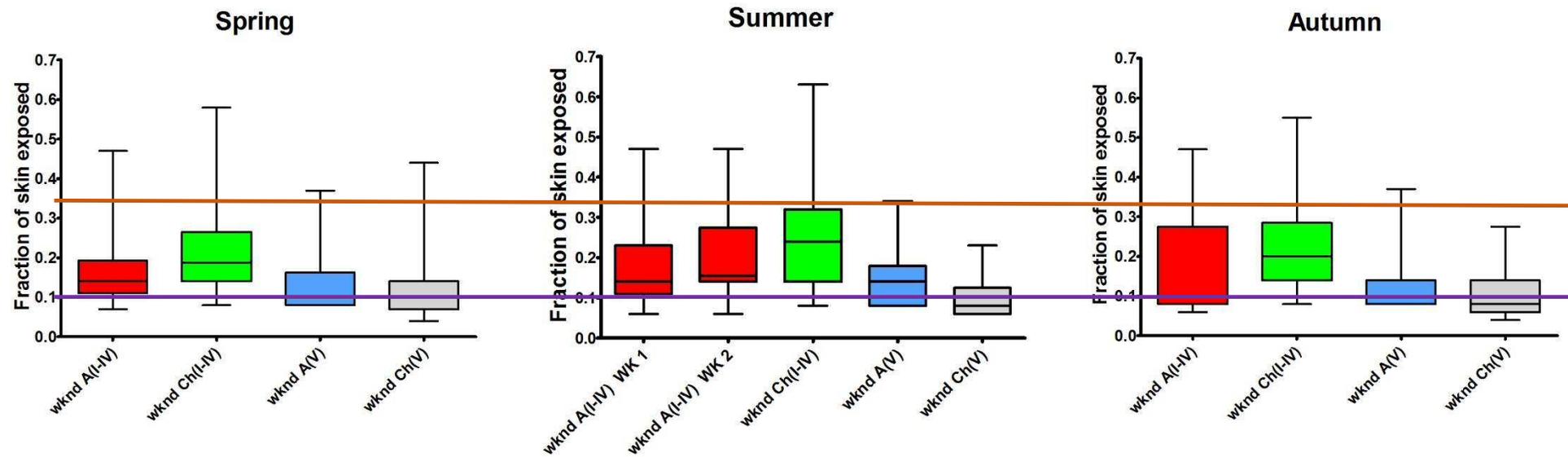
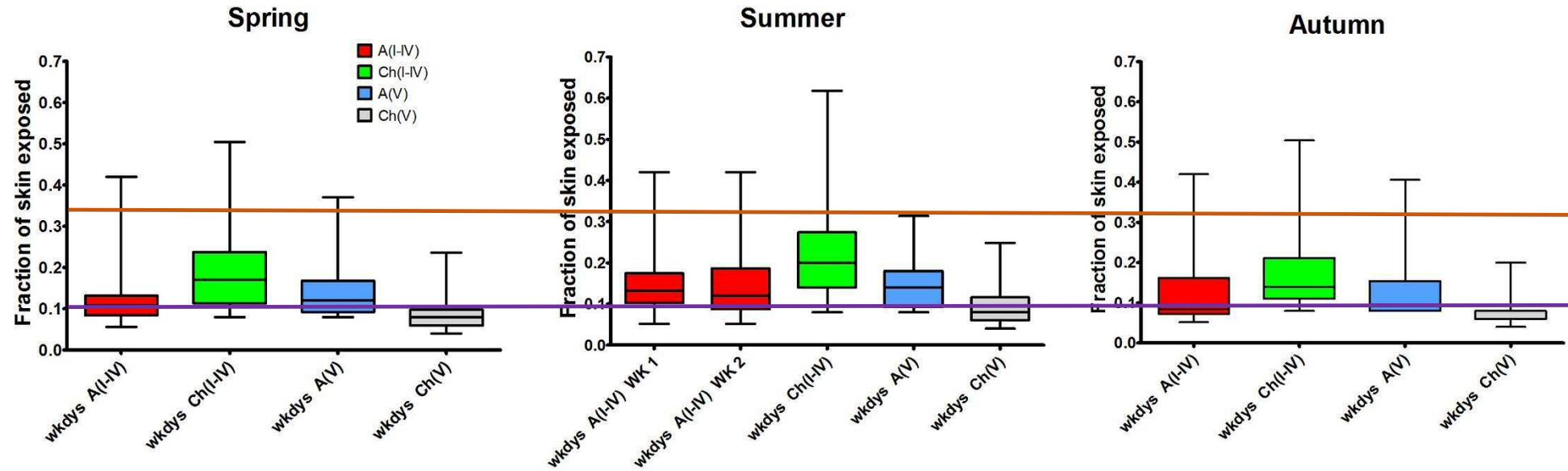
Target exposure for white skin types to  
 remain clear of vitamin D deficiency by  
 end winter is 38 SED acquired in **short,  
 daily doses.**

Webb, Ann R., Andreas Kazantzidis, Richard C. Kift, Mark D. Farrar,  
 Jack Wilkinson and Lesley E. Rhodes (2018) Colour Counts: Sunlight  
 and Skin Type as Drivers of Vitamin D Deficiency at UK Latitudes.  
 Nutrients 10(4), 457; <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu10040457>  
 Webb AR, Kazantzidis A, Kift RC, Farrar MD, Wilkinson J, Rhodes LE  
 (2018) Meeting Vitamin D Requirements in White Caucasians at UK  
 Latitudes: Providing a Choice. Nutrients 10(4), 497;  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/nu10040497>

# Time outside 12-2pm (BST), Manchester



# Skin area exposed in middle of day, Manchester



# Conclusion

- Retrospective analysis of unguided sun exposure behaviour shows that many white Caucasians spend sufficient time in the midday sun (and with minimal risk of sunburn), but do not always expose sufficient skin area to meet vitamin D needs (97.5% population with 25(OH)D > 25 nmol/L year-round).
- Across all our studies 10-20% of white Caucasian population had winter vitamin D status < 25 nmol/L.
- **Viable – Yes – improve by exposing more skin area**
- Skin type V individuals need to spend 25 minutes in the midday sun for equivalent vitamin D synthesis. Median exposure for children on spring and summer weekdays achieved this. Skin area exposed remains insufficient for almost all.
- The great majority of skin type V individuals have 25(OH)D < 25 nmol/L during winter (and year round).
- **Viable – No/difficult – alternative source (supplements) recommended**

# NICE Recommendations:

- 6.6 It is not possible to provide a simple definitive message telling different groups how often and how long they can be exposed to sunlight to ensure minimum risk but maximum benefit. That is because the amount of UV someone gets from sunlight depends on a range of biological, environmental and behavioural factors. **But the committee agreed that advice on preventing both skin cancer and low vitamin D status can be combined.** It heard (from expert papers 4 and 5) that **short (less than the time it takes for skin to redden or burn), frequent periods of sunlight exposure are best for vitamin D synthesis.** In addition, this type of exposure is less likely to result in skin cancer.
- 6.19 The risk-benefit ratio of sunlight exposure will vary depending on how dark or light someone's skin is. The committee was particularly concerned about the **risks and benefits for darker skinned people** because much of the evidence and existing advice is focused on those with lighter skin
- 6.22 The balance of published evidence suggests that **skin with darker pigmentation needs longer sunlight exposure than lighter skin to produce equivalent levels of vitamin D.** But further research is needed. In the meantime, the committee was clear that people of all skin types should not risk burning their skin.
- 6.30 The recommendations stress the **need for tailored individual advice** to back up the universal messages. The committee noted that universal interventions could result in adverse effects for some groups and so increase health inequalities. For example, universal messages about protecting the skin from sunlight exposure may inadvertently lead to a reduction in the amount of skin exposed to sunlight among groups at risk of low vitamin D status.

# THANKS

- To all our many volunteers over the years
- To the multiple collaborators who have made these studies possible, from clinical staff to school nurses and academic colleagues
- To the funders who have supported the different aspects of the work summarised here: Action Medical Research, British Skin Foundation, BUPA, Cancer Research UK, Dept. Environment Food and Rural Affairs, Dept. of Health, Dunhill Medical Trust

# RobotAnalyst automating systematic reviews

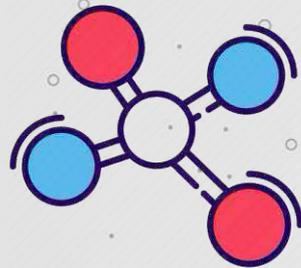
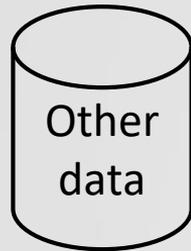
**SOPHIA ANANIADOU**  
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TEXT MINING  
COMPUTER SCIENCE



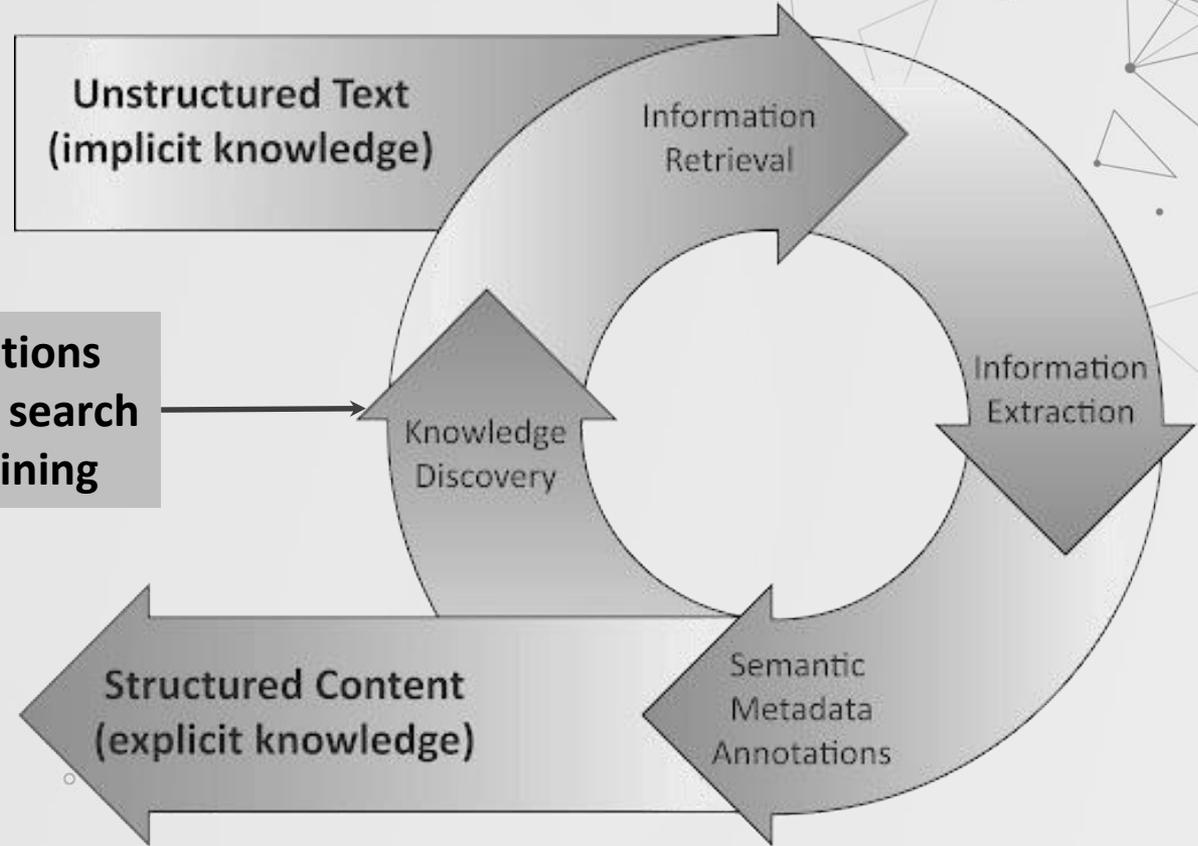
# AI (Text Mining & Machine Learning) to support systematic reviews and guideline development and update

- Key databases are manually curated and oriented towards human use
- Concept labels do not always reflect the written language
- The volume of terms in literature, synonyms for the same concepts in different written forms
- Problems of discovery and mapping of new terms found in literature into existing resources have constituted a barrier to ***semantic search***

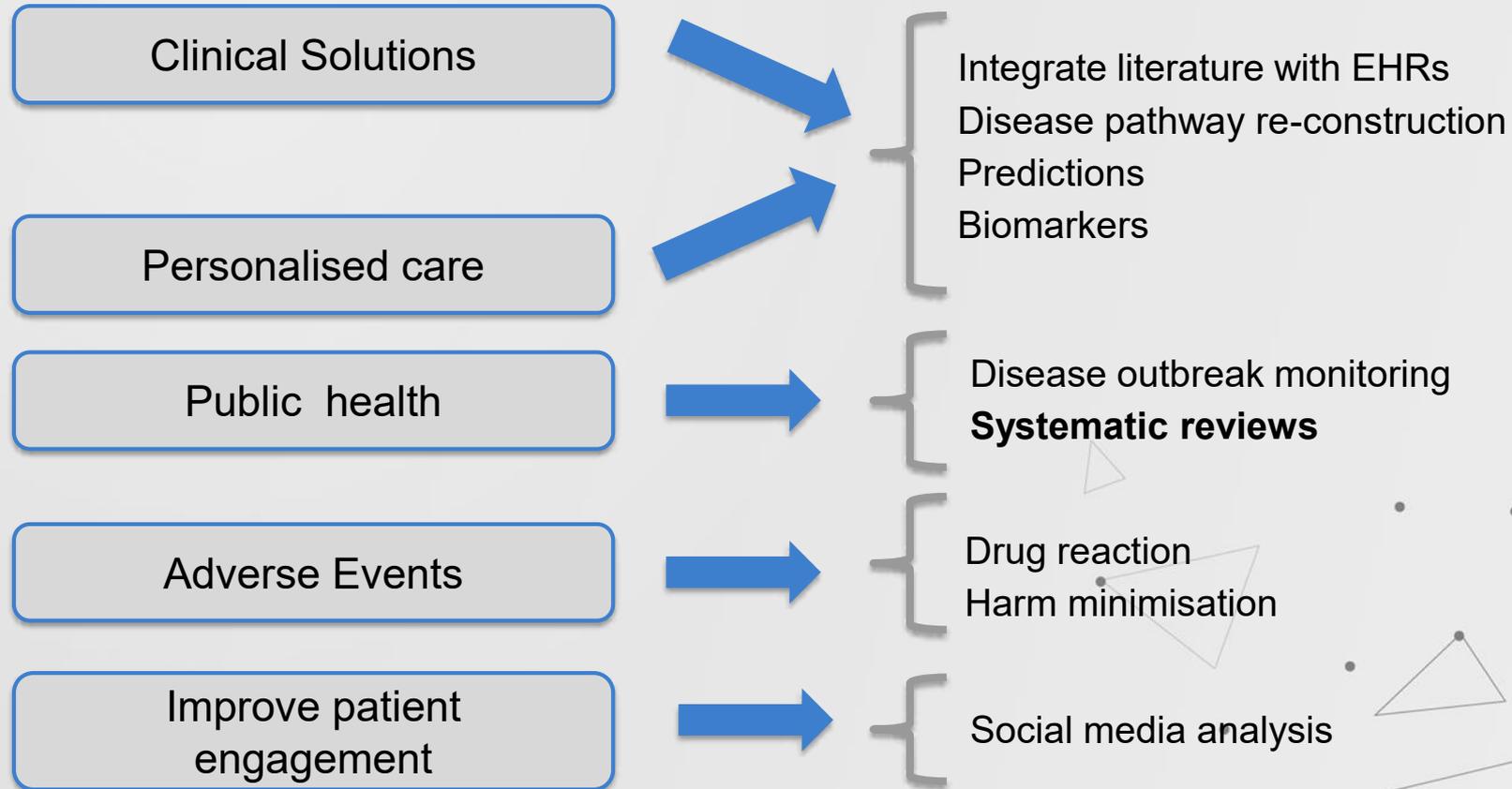
# Text Mining in a Nutshell



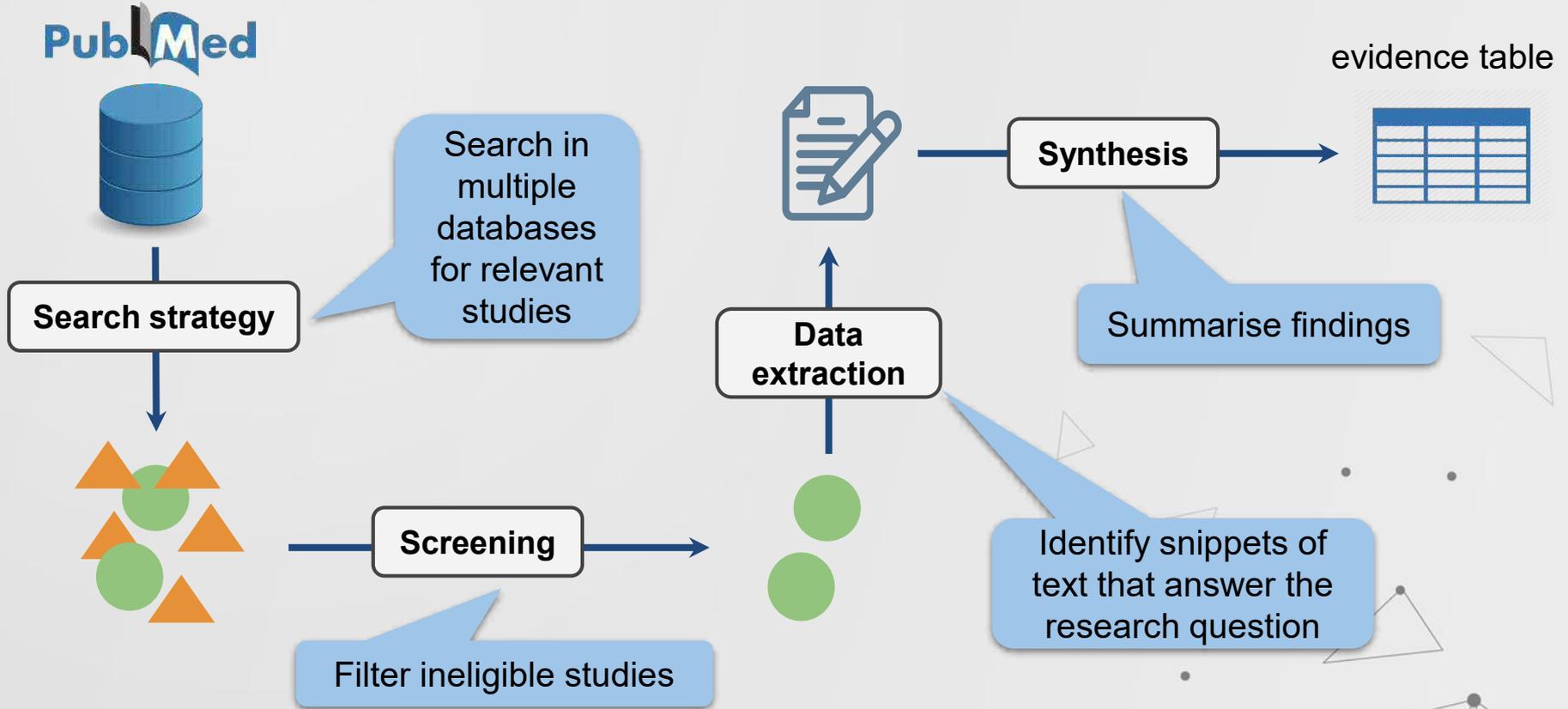
**Applications**  
**Semantic search**  
**Data mining**



# Applications of text mining in health



# Systematic Reviews: steps and challenges



# Challenges

- Time consuming and resource-intensive process
  - Low precision of engines (e.g., PubMed); many items to screen
  - Slow process of screening (~2 min/abstract) and extracting data from text (~2hr/abstract)
  - Cannot keep up with rapidly evolving literature (trials published daily)
- TM accelerates the development of Systematic Reviews
  - Improve search
  - Semi-automate citation screening; **workload reduction**

# Text Mining for Literature Search

Ideally, a search strategy should maximise:



**sensitivity:** all relevant studies are included in the review

**specificity:** minimise screening effort

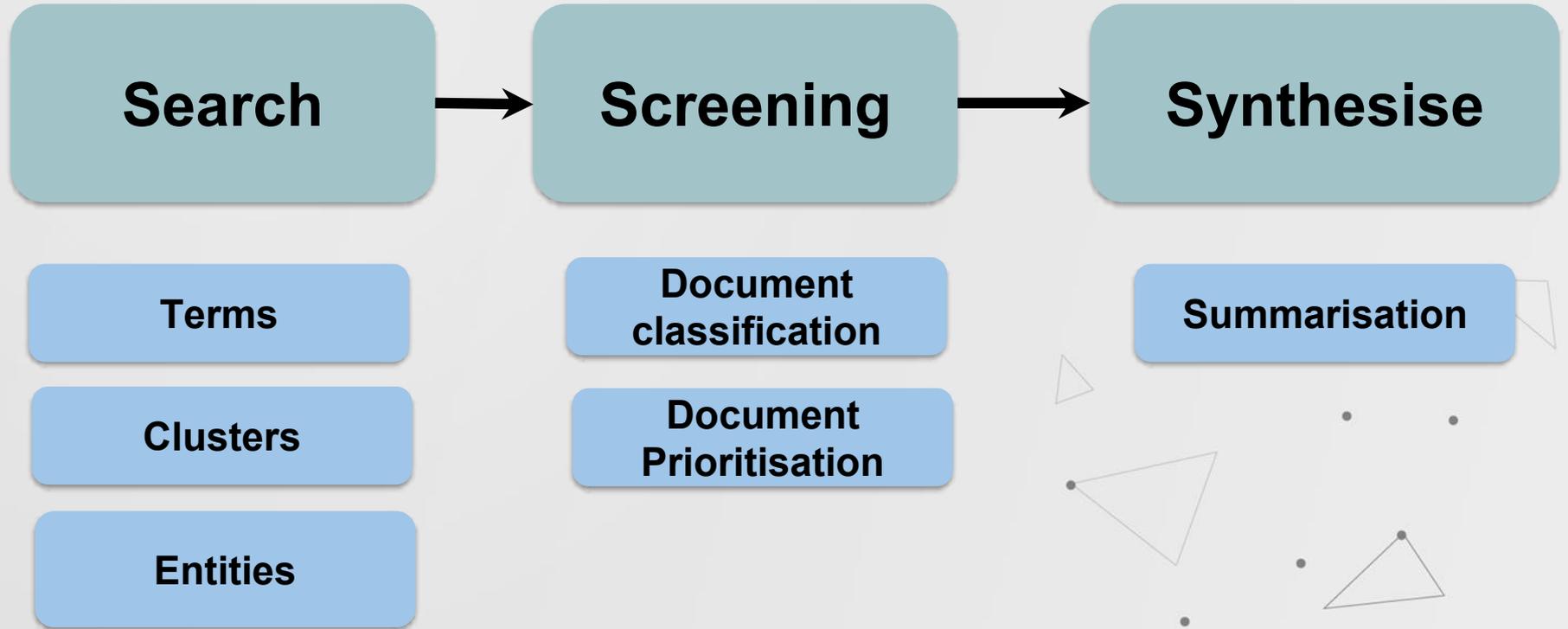
## Increased Sensitivity

- Augment query with synonyms, orthographic variations, related terms (e.g., extend '*impaired vision*' with '*loss of vision*')
- Include short-forms (e.g., 'GAD') and long-forms of an acronym (e.g., generalised anxiety disorder)
  - An article might contain either the short-form, long-form or both.

## Increased specificity

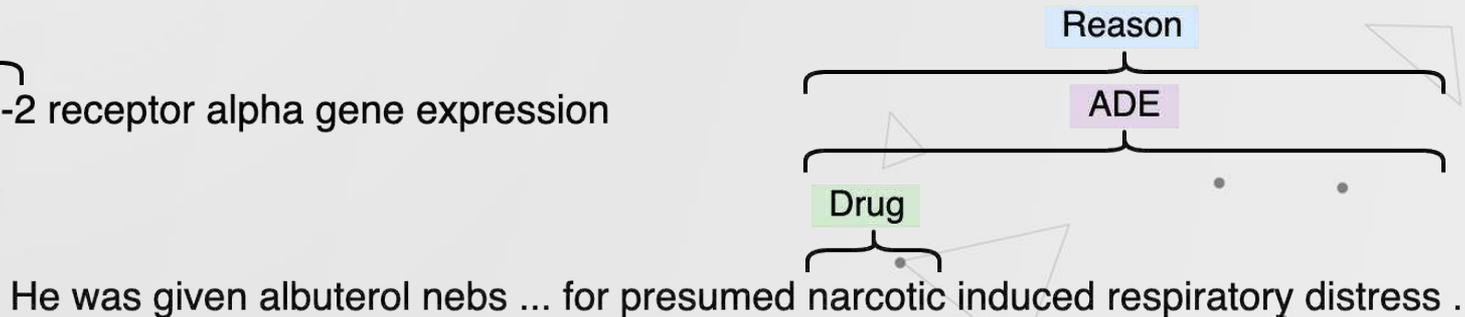
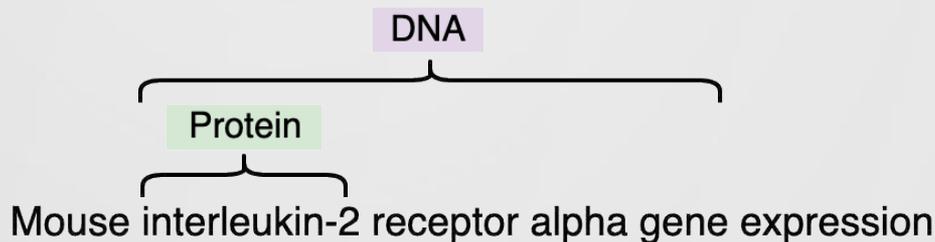
- Disambiguation of query terms (e.g., 'cat' animal or 'cat' protein)
- Disambiguation of acronyms (e.g., 'GAD' might refer to either '*generalised anxiety disorder*' or '*glutamic acid decarboxylase*')
- Subject-verb-object (SVO) queries instead of keyword-based queries
  - SVO queries require concepts to have a syntactic relationship thus should increase specificity over keyword-based queries.

# Text Mining Methods for Systematic Reviews



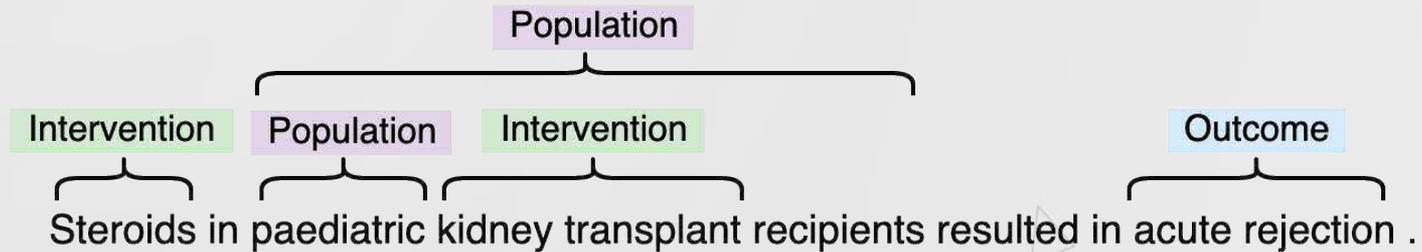
# Named Entities

- **Named entities** are typically **embedded in longer entities**
- The embedded entities are known as **nested named entities**



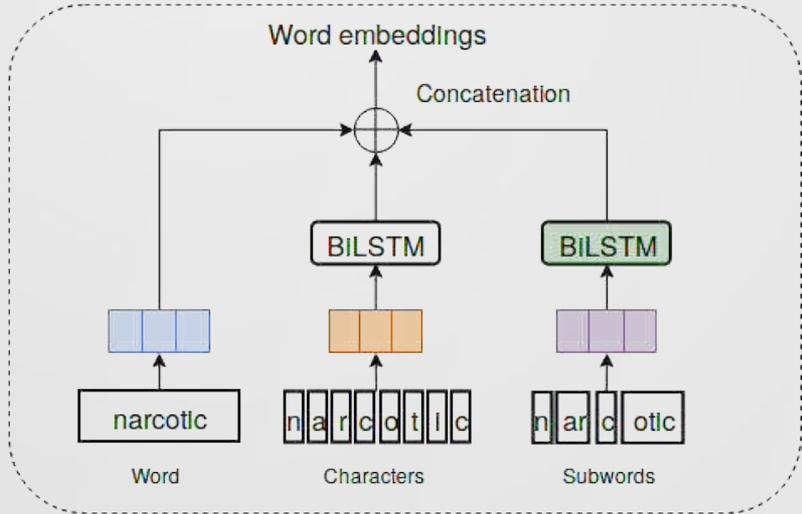
# PICO Element Extraction

Extract PICO elements of patient/population (P), intervention (I), comparator (C), and outcomes (O) from medical articles



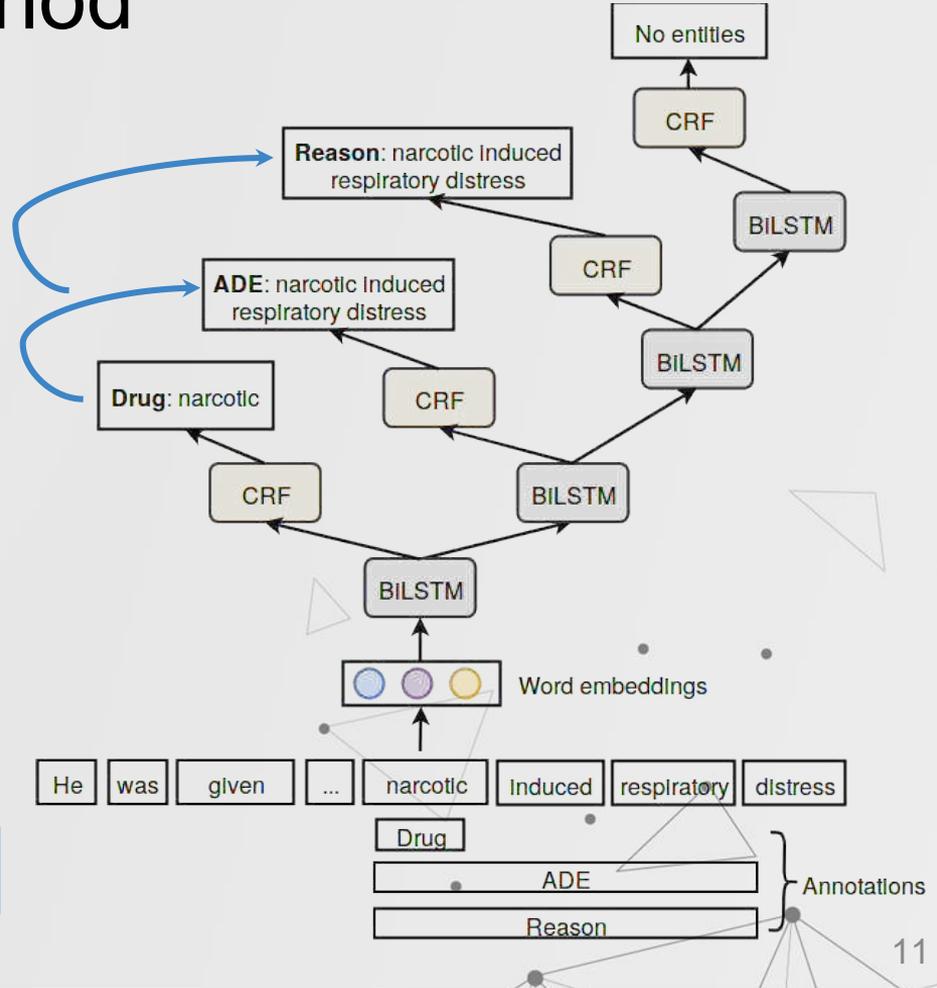
# Method

- **Subwords:** combination of the most frequent consecutive characters of words, e.g., subwords of “narcotic”: [n, ar, c, otic]



Uses inner entities to detect outer entities

Dynamically stacks BiLSTM-CRF blocks



# Application: Faceted Semantic Search

Thalia



cat

125679 abstracts found in 0.22 seconds

Ovarian tissue culture in the presence of VEGF and fetuin stimulates follicle growth and steroidoge...

The Journal of endocrinology - 2017

... +VEGFA165 groups. we observed a high level of total antioxidant capacity and expression of SOD1 and CAT ...

Oxidative stress of imidacloprid in the earthworm *Eisenia fetida*.

Comparative biochemistry and physiology - 2017

... Oxidative stres

iTRAQ-based

Journal of proteo

... of action again

proteins, especially CAT and SOD. BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE ...

Mechanisms underlying toxicity and stimulatory role of single-walled carbon nanotubes in *Hyoscyamus*...

Journal of hazardous materials - 2017

... of changes in the expression of various antioxidant enzymes including SOD, POD, CAT, and APX, and also ...

Physiological and biochemical effects of nickel on rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) tissues: Ass...

Chemosphere - 2017

... of superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT) enzyme activity and of lipid peroxidation (LPO), and glutathione ... in LPO indicating peroxidative damage and antioxidant enzymes SOD and CAT activity in tissues (p ... < 0.05), but 2 mg/Ni concentration caused a significant decrease in CAT activity in kidney tissues (p ...

Chronic effects of triclocarban in the amphipod *Gammarus locusta*: Behavioural and biochemical impai...

Ecotoxicology and environmental safety - 2017

... markers of oxidative stress (catalase (CAT), glutathione-s-transferase (GST) and lipid peroxidation ...

This search strategy returns 125,679 abstracts  
Unnecessary workload

▼ Year

▼ Journal

▼ Author

▼ Type

▼ MeSH

▼ Chemical

▼ Disease

▼ Drug

▼ Gene

▼ Metabolite

▼ Protein

▼ Species

▼ Anatomical

# Application: Faceted Semantic Search

Thalia

## Article meta-data

Year	<input type="text"/>
Journal	<input type="text"/>
Author	<input type="text"/>
Type	<input type="text"/>
MeSH	<input type="text"/>

## Named entities

Chemicals	<input type="text"/>
Diseases	<input type="text"/>
Drugs	<input type="text"/>
Genes	<input type="text"/>
Metabolites	<input type="text"/>
Proteins	<input type="text" value="CAT (UniProt:Q6IB77) x"/>
Species	<input type="text"/>
Anatomic	<input type="text"/>

Faceted search  
Specify the semantic category of query terms  
Reduced number of papers to read by 85%

Ovarian tissue culture in the presence of VEGF and fetuin stimulates follicle growth and steroidoge...

[The Journal of endocrinology](#) - 2017

... VEGFA165 groups, we observed a high level of total antioxidant capacity and expression of SOD1 and CAT genes, low reactive oxygen species and lipid peroxidation levels and increased number of viable fol ...

Oxidative stress of imidaclothiz on earthworm *Eisenia fetida*.

[Comparative biochemistry and physiology. Toxicology & pharmacology](#) : CBP - 2017

... Oxidative stress of imidaclothiz on earthworm *Eisenia fetida*. For GST, CE, CAT and SOD, activities of them were significantly increased compared to those of the control during th ...

# Application: Faceted Semantic Search

Generalised  
Anxiety Disorder  
(GAD)

Thalia

Acronym Disambiguation



GAD

8228 abstracts found in 0.06 seconds

**Comparison of PROMIS Anxiety and for anxiety and depression ...**  
*Journal of neurosurgery. Spine* - 2019  
... Comparison of PROMIS Anxiety and Depression ... at a single institution completed the (GAD-7), 8 ... and GAD-7 and PHQ-8 scores. Presence ...

**Fear of disease progression in adult prevalence and clinical...**  
*Supportive care in cancer : official journal of the* - 2019  
... Scale, GAD-7), depression (Patient Health Questionnaire Health ...

**Psychological factors related to resilience HIV in an integrated...**  
*AIDS care* - 2019  
... as part of the standard protocol of care for you (GAD-7 ...

^ Disease

**generalized anxiety disorder**

UMLS:C0270549 **2319**

**anxiety disorders**

**1001**

UMLS:C0003489

**psychiatric disorders**

**444**

UMLS:C0004836

**panic disorder**

**412**

UMLS:C0003019

**major depressive disorder**

**302**

UMLS:C0041898

**diabetes mellitus**

**263**

UMLS:C0011849

**autoimmune diseases**

**222**

UMLS:C0004384

[Show more...](#)

^ Gene

**glutamate decarboxylase**

HGNC:4092 **1063**

**Insulin**

**870**

HGNC:6081

**GAD65**

**444**

HGNC:4093

**human**

**246**

HGNC:7471

**tyrosine hydroxylase**

**172**

HGNC:11782

**parvalbumin**

**133**

HGNC:9704

**GABA(A) receptor**

**89**

HGNC:4089

[Show more...](#)



Pa

# Application: Faceted Semantic Search

Thalia

GAD



## Article meta-data

Year

Journal

Author

Type

MeSH

## Named entities

Chemicals

Diseases

Drugs

Genes

generalized anxiety disorder (UMLS:C0175704) x

By disambiguating the acronym in our search strategy we reduced the number of articles from 7,387 to 1,674 (increased specificity)

Search

1674 abstracts found in 3.49 seconds

Which medications should be prescribed to treat generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)?.

Journal of psychiatry & neuroscience : JPN - 1999

... Which medications should be prescribed to treat generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)? ... Which medications should be prescribed to treat generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)? ...

[Generalized anxiety disorders (GAD)--a neglected illness? Background und aims of the GAD-P study].

Fortschritte der Medizin. Originalien - 2001

... [Generalized anxiety disorders (GAD)--a neglected illness? Background und aims of the GAD-P study ... ]In the past Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)--previously classified as anxiety neurosis ... --was regarded as not being a separate diagnostic entity. On the basis of new explicit criteria for GAD ...

Year

Journal

Author

Type

Chemical

Disease

generalized anxiety disorder

1674

UMLS C0175704

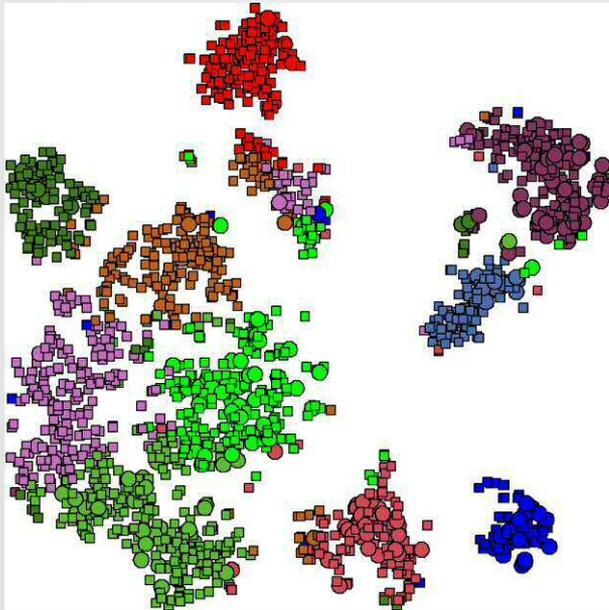
GAD

1446

UMLS C0270649

# Descriptive Clustering for Search

- Organise large collections into non-overlapping clusters
  - Each cluster is a group of *similar* documents
- Describe each cluster using a set of keywords or phrase
  - Prevalent within the cluster - Localised to the cluster



## Behaviour change (10 clusters from 1667 references)

- physical, pain, activity, trial, diabetes (250)
- physician, dietitian, contraception, care (224)
- woman, fat, food, weight, intake, dietary (222)
- sexual, work, young people, child (194)
- smoking cessation, abstinence, nicotine (174)
- hiv, condom, testing, sex, prevention, hiv/aids (147)
- alcohol, drinking, screening, brief intervention (144)
- student, school, nursing, teach, performance (134)
- cancer, dental, tobacco, dentist, tobacco use (91)

# Descriptive Clustering for Search

physician, dietitian, lifestyle, care, patient, practice, contraception, heart, improve, consultation, medicine, nurse, cite, pharmacist, management (236)

physical, pain, self-management, chronic, trial, exercise, review, type, activity, diabete, randomise, improvement, quality, cognitive, outcome (233)

weight, dietary, fat, food, intake, woman, healthy, nutrition, participant, vegetable, lifestyle, behavior, overweight, physical\_activity, african (224)

sexual, work, child, young\_people, mental, lesbian, issue, counsellor, experience, multicultural, article, client, justice, argue, therapeutic (197)

smoking, smoker, quit, smoke, cessation, smoking\_cessation, nicotine, abstinence, smoking\_cessation\_intervention, smoking\_status (175)

physician, dietitian, lifestyle, care, patient, practice, contraception, heart, improve, consultation, medicine, nurse, cite, pharmacist, management (236)

physical, pain, self-management, chronic, trial, exercise, review, type, activity, diabete, randomise, improvement, quality, cognitive, outcome (233)

weight, dietary, fat, food, intake, woman, healthy, nutrition, participant, vegetable, lifestyle, behavior, overweight, physical\_activity, african (224)

sexual, work, child, young\_people, mental, lesbian, issue, counsellor, experience, multicultural, article, client, justice, argue, therapeutic (197)

smoking, smoker, quit, smoke, cessation, smoking\_cessation, nicotine, abstinence, smoking\_cessation\_intervention,



# Systematic Reviews: RobotAnalyst

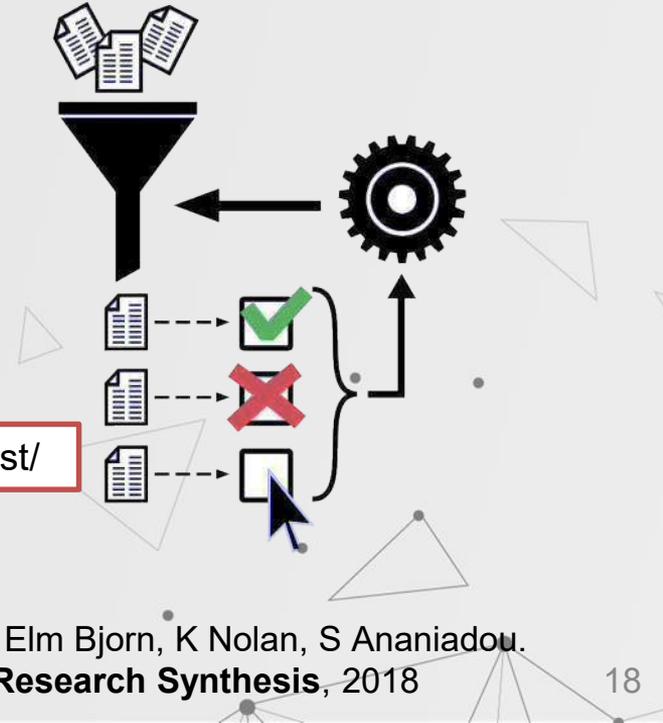
- Web-based screening system
- Text mining & **active learning** to prioritise reviews based on **relevancy-feedback**
  - Harness human decisions to **prioritise unseen references**
- Unsupervised exploration of references using topic modelling and descriptive clustering

<http://www.nactem.ac.uk/robotanalyst/>

Link to demo:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=et1DEZnbgao&feature=youtu.be>

## RobotAnalyst



# Web-based platform for searching and screening

1. Import references as RIS files from online databases, EndNote, etc.

2. Search collection to pinpoint initial inclusions

Keyword-based search

Term

Document ID

Publication year

Author

Type of publication

Journal

Notes

Time of screening decision

Retrieval method

Topic

Order citations per cluster relevance



3. Explore the collection's clusters, each described by a set of (multiword) keywords

5. Update the machine learning model

Screening - Round 1

Included: 0

Excluded: 0

Undecided: 2583

---

Screening - Overall

Included: 6

Excluded: 1

Undecided: 2583

Clusters

Choose Algorithm SC

Number of Clusters 5

Predicted Inclusion Rate

Descending

overdiagnosis, estimate, overdiagnosis rate, misset benefit, magnitude, definition, excess, overdiagnosis estimate, incidence trend, reliable estimate (0.90845)

benefit, health, harm, recommendation, strategy, cervical, life, barrier, prevention, decision, mortality, cost, effective, provider (0.70031)

incidence rate, interval, ci, trend, incident, incidence, hormone, decline, breast cancer incidence, observe, period, age, regression, year (0.6488)

carcinoma, lesion, patient, biopsy, malignancy, recurrence, surgery, metastatic, culture, disease

6. Prioritise to view the most relevant references

Screen: All

Showing page 1 of 44 (2582 results)

0 included | 0 excluded | 1514 predicted includes | 1068 predicted excludes

**Twenty five year follow-up for breast cancer incidence and mortality of the Canadian National Breast Screening Study: randomised screening trial.**

OBJECTIVE: To compare breast cancer incidence and mortality up to 25 years in women aged 40-59 who did or did not undergo mammography screening... DESIGN: Follow-up of randomised screening trial by centre coordinators, the study's central office, and linkage to cancer registries and vital statistics

Please enter a term you wish to search for

breast cancer (1800)

breast cancer screening (486)

mammography screening (358)

screening mammography (333)

mammographic screening (300)

early detection (268)

screening program (266)

breast cancer incidence (262)

ductal carcinoma (241)

screening programme (227)

breast cancer mortality (224)

incidence rate (218)

breast screening (211)

invasive breast (208)

invasive breast cancer (188)

Most Relevant Topic: trial, breast, group, control, randomized

Time of Screening Decision: 2018-08-06 12:12:25

Retrieval Method: initial upload

Similar Articles

Screening Mammography Would Have Been Initiated Regardless of the CNBSS.

No abstract available for this document

Manual Notes:

Most Relevant Topic: screening, mammography, study, canadian, national

Time of Screening Decision: 2018-08-06 12:12:23

Retrieval Method: initial upload

System's Suggestion:

Inclusion Confidence: 0.54563

System's Suggestion:

Inclusion Confidence: 0.54302

4. Make your own decisions: include, exclude, undecided

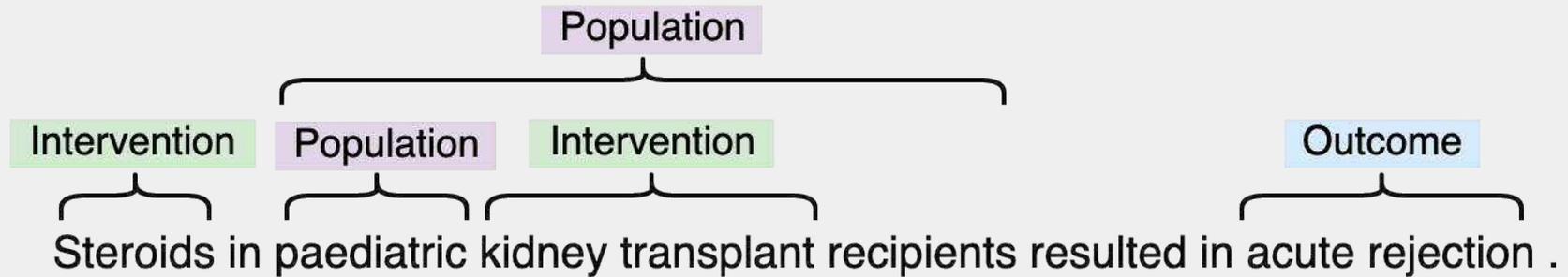
# Performance Measures

- Prioritise the most relevant references
- Work saved over sampling at 95% (WSS@95%) and area under the recall curve (AUC)
  - WSS@95% measures the % of documents that do not need to be screened if the analyst were to stop screening upon reaching a recall of 95%, compared to random order screening
  - AUC averages workload across all recall levels

# Reference Prioritisation with PICO

**Task** Screen relevant documents by incorporating PICO elements within biomedical and medical document collections

**PICO Elements:** patient/population (P), intervention (I), comparator (C), and outcomes (O)

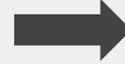


# Workflow of Reference Prioritisation

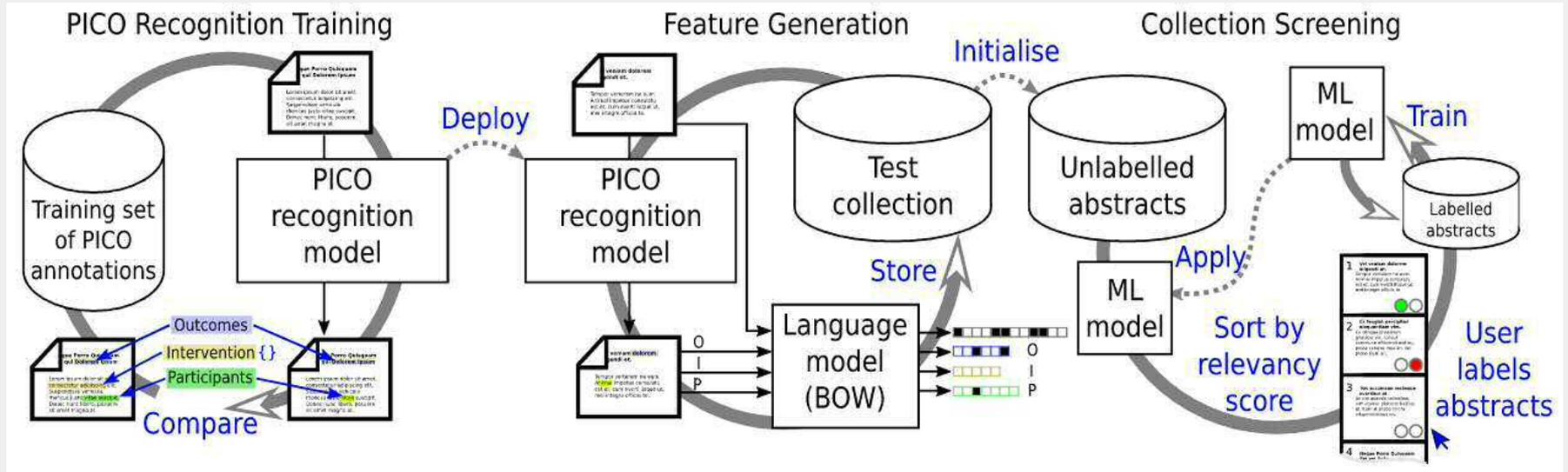
Phrase 1



Phrase 2



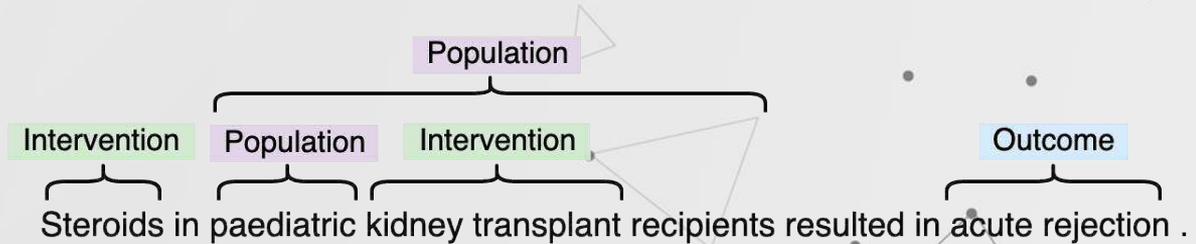
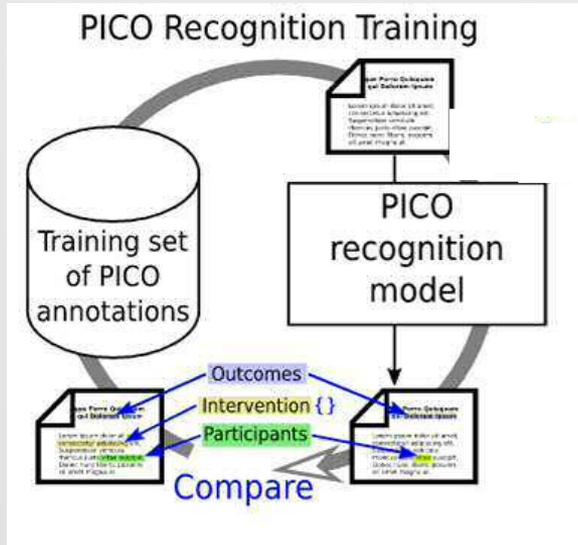
Phrase 3



# Phrase 1

## Phrase 1

- Task: extraction of PICO elements from medical articles
- PICO Recognition: Nested named entity recognition
- Model: layered BiLSTM-CRF model (Ju et al. 2018)



# Experimental Evaluation - PICO Extraction

**PICO Corpus:** 5,000 abstracts of medical articles describing clinical randomized controlled trials

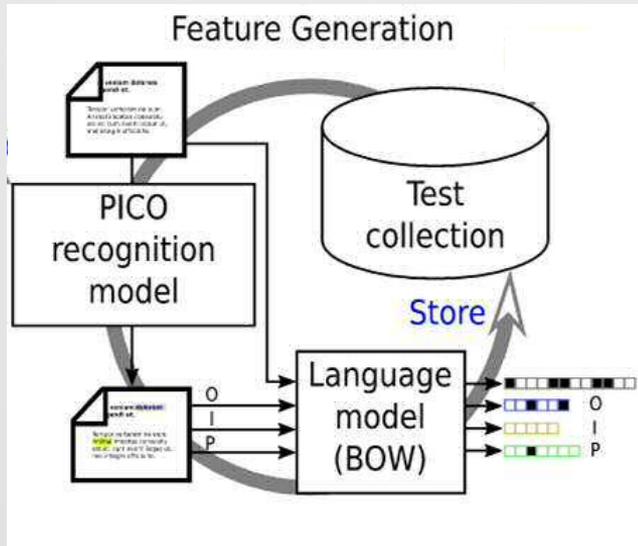
Top-level	Patient-population-problem	Intervention/Comparator	Outcome
Fine-grained	Age	Control	Adverse effect
	Condition	Educational	Mental
	Sample size	Pharmacological	Mortality
	Sex	Physical	Pain
		Psychological	Physical
		Surgical	Other
		Other	

The top-level and fine-grained PICO elements

	Token-wise			Document-level BOW		
	Precision	Recall	F-1	Precision	Recall	F-1
Participants	0.81	0.62	0.70	0.86	0.71	0.78
Interventions	0.69	0.47	0.56	0.83	0.52	0.64
Outcomes	0.66	0.75	0.70	0.73	0.81	0.77

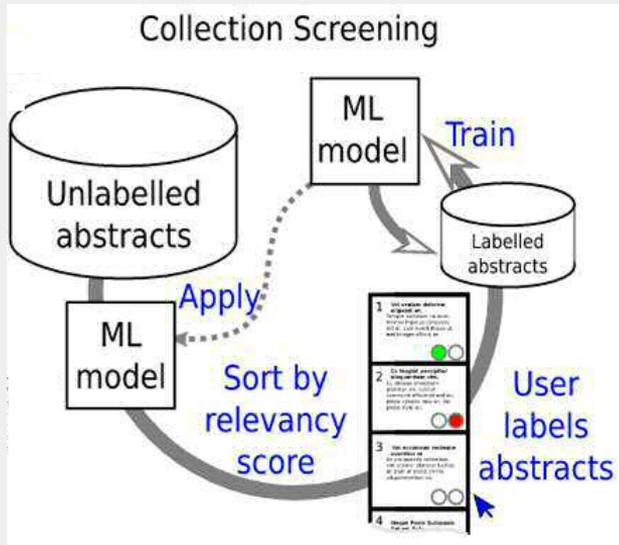
Performance on the test set per input representation

## Phrase 2



- Task: convert each abstract to a vector
- PICO recognition model: **Phrase 1**
- $\text{Vector} = \text{BOW}_{\text{abstract}} + \text{BOW}_{\text{title}} + \text{BOW}_{\text{PICO}}$
- Bag-of-word (BOW): if the word is in the given context or not

### Phrase 3



**Task:** screen collections

**ML model:** classifies each document is relevant or not

**Steps:**

1. User labels abstracts relevant or not
2. Labeled abstracts are used to train our model
3. Apply the model to the remaining unlabeled abstracts
4. User labels top ranked abstracts
5. Repeat the above process: 1 - 4

- Inclusion of PICO features improves performance with substantial gains
- PICO tagged segments in text are predictive features for inclusion
- Combine relevancy classification pipeline with PICO
- PICO tagging an interpretable process emulating human annotation
- Annotations can be used on the own to improve search

## Data

- DERP (Drug Effectiveness Review Project) (Cohen AM 2006), 17890 documents from PubMed
- OHAT and CAMARADES (Howard BE, et al. 2016), 90322 documents from PubMed and other databases

Work	OHAT and CAMARADES	DERP
Matwin S, et al. (2010)	-	33.5
Cohen AM (2011)	-	40.8
Howard BE, et al. (2016)	76.6	48.8*
Ours (without PICO)	77.9	43.2
<b>Ours (with PICO)</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>44.8</b>

**Evaluation Metric: WSS@95%**, measures manual screening effort saved by a reviewer that would stop the process after finding 95% of the relevant documents.

# Other NaCTeM search-based systems

- **ASCOT** (Assisting Search and Creation Of clinical Trials)
  - <http://www.nactem.ac.uk/ClinicalTrialProtocols/>
  - Enrich clinical trial collections with metadata
  - Document clustering
- **EUPMC** Evidence Finder
  - Query-based search in full text articles
  - Search by meta-knowledge dimension
- **FACTA+**
  - <http://www.nactem.ac.uk/facta/>
  - Generating hypotheses based on indirect associations across documents
- **HoM** (History of Medicine)
  - <http://nactem.ac.uk/hom/>
  - Semantic search system over historical medical archives
  - Historical tracking of query terms and their evolution
- **MEDIE**
  - Biomedical event retrieval from Medline
  - Event based faceted search

# Conclusions

- SR development challenging, due to size and inconsistency of literature
- Majority of clinicians/analysts do not possess expert literature search skills
- Difficult to develop complex search strategies
- Production of SRs is time consuming, update cycles often of years
- Systems like RobotAnalyst cut screening time by at least 50% by ranking the most relevant reference

# National Centre for Text Mining

- 1<sup>st</sup> publicly funded national text mining centre
- Location: Manchester Institute of Biotechnology
- Phase I - Biology (2005-2008)
- Phase II - Biology, Medicine, Social Sciences (2008-2011)
- Phase III – Biology, Medicine, Humanities, Social Sciences; Fully sustainable centre (2011-)

[www.nactem.ac.uk](http://www.nactem.ac.uk)

**NaCTeM**  
The National Centre for Text Mining

You are in: Home | Welcome to NaCTeM

**Welcome to NaCTeM**

The National Centre for Text Mining (NaCTeM) is the first publicly-funded text mining centre in the world. We provide text mining services in response to the requirements of the UK academic community. NaCTeM is operated by the University of Manchester.

On our website, you can find pointers to sources of information about text mining such as links to

- text mining services provided by NaCTeM
- software tools, both those developed by the NaCTeM team and by other text mining groups
- seminars, general events, conferences and workshops
- tutorials and demonstrations
- text mining publications

Let us know if you would like to include any of the above in our website.

**What text mining can do for you**

Text mining offers a solution to the challenge of 'data deluge', information overload and information overlook. For more information, please see:

- [NaCTeM Brochure](#)
- [Mining Biomedical Literature](#)
- [Event extraction for systems biology by text mining the literature](#)
- [Supporting the education evidence portal via text mining](#)
- [Using text mining for study identification in systematic reviews: a systematic review of current approaches](#)
- [Event-based text mining for biology and functional genomics](#)
- [Processing biological literature with customizable Web services](#)

**Featured News**

- [Vacancy for Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning Scientist \(KTP Fellow\)](#)
- [Prof. Sophia Ananiadou awarded honorary doctorate](#)
- [NaCTeM to work on new EU project to reduce the burden of disease caused by working-life exposures](#)
- [Prof Tsujii attends dinner with President Macron at Global Forum on AI for Humanity](#)
- [Panel chair at Global Forum on AI for Humanity](#)
- [Prof Jun'ichi](#)

the national centre for text mining

# NaCTeM People

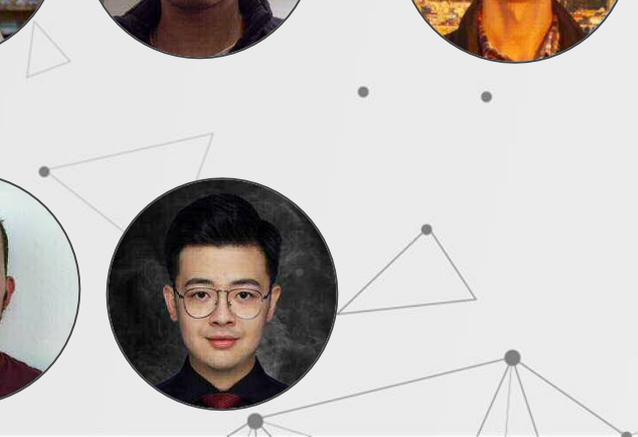
## Research Staff



## Visitors



## Students



# Funding sources



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council





# THANK YOU!

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