

29 August 2012

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
MidCity Place
71 High Holborn
London WC1V 6NA

By email to: psoriasis@nice.org.uk

Dear Sirs

We wish to comment on the NICE consultation draft guidance on the management of psoriasis.

The 2 recently published NICE public health guidance PH33, PH34^{1,2} on HIV testing recommend testing for HIV in the presence of HIV indicator diseases as per the 2008 National HIV Testing Guidelines³ (which include psoriasis as an indicator disease).

We note that you did not include HIV in your search questions for co-morbidities. We acknowledge that although there is plenty of literature looking at the prevalence of psoriasis in HIV in common with other co morbidities there is very little on the prevalence of HIV in psoriasis. This is currently being addressing in a large pan European study⁴ (HIDES2).

Despite this lack of evidence we would urge you to include HIV testing in all patients diagnosed with severe psoriasis in line with existing NICE and EU guidance⁵ especially as it would be wise to exclude HIV before considering treatment with immunosuppressive therapy.

We apologise for having missed the deadline for consultation, this guidance has only just come to our attention.

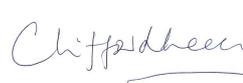
Yours faithfully



Prof Jane Anderson
Chair, British HIV
association
(BHIVA)



Dr Martin Fisher
Chair,
BHIVA
Guidelines
Subcommittee



Prof Clifford Leen
Honorary
Treasurer,
British
HIV association
(BHIVA)



Dr Adrian Palfreeman,
Vice-
Chair,
BHIVA
Guidelines
Subcommittee

cc: nice@nice.org.uk

References

1. <http://www.nice.org.uk/nicemedia/live/13417/53591/53591.pdf>
2. <http://www.nice.org.uk/nicemedia/live/13413/53675/53675.pdf>
3. <http://www.bhiva.org/documents/Guidelines/Testing/GlinesHIVTest08.pdf>
4. <http://www.hiveurope.eu/Project3HIDES/HIDES2/tabid/127/Default.aspx>
5. <http://www.hiveurope.eu/GuidanceHIVIndicatorConditions/tabid/176/Default.aspx>