Strategy for Renal Association Guidelines

This document sets out to plan the work of the Renal Association’s Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) committee until June 2020. It is informed by a survey sent out to RA members in November 2016. It was discussed and agreed at a CPG committee teleconference on 20/09/2017.

We propose that the RA will not usually produce an RA guideline on a topic that is covered by KDIGO or NICE but will instead produce a commentary stating which recommendations the RA endorses and which it does not. Audit standards may be contained in this commentary which could be more detailed than previous commentaries. An exception to this may be made if the committee thinks that the recommendations in a KDIGO or NICE guideline are significantly at variance with UK practice or there are gaps in the scope of the NICE or KDIGO guideline that need to be addressed. It will also depend on the presence of expert authors willing to undertake the work required for a full guideline.

The conflict of interest policy that applies to full guidelines will also apply to commentaries. A chair will be identified for commentary author groups. The conflict of interest policy has more stringent conflict of interest criteria for chairs.

Full guidelines will continue to be produced on topics not covered by KDIGO and NICE. These will include smaller topics thought to be important in UK nephrology. New topics will be considered by the guidelines committee if suggestions are received.

We will continue to write joint guidelines with partner professional bodies. It will be established if the RA is leading and the guideline is being written according to RA NICE accredited processes, or the RA is endorsing a guideline led by another organization.

The CPG committee will also provide support in optimising any guidelines or information sources, developed within the community, which are of relevance to members.

This strategy has been approved by the Renal Association Trustees.