National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use

Stakeholder Comments

Please use this form for submitting your comments to the Institute.

1. Please put each new comment in a new row.
2. Please do not paste other tables into this table, as your comments could get lost – type directly into this table.
3. Please insert the **section number** in the 2nd column. If your comment relates to the document as a whole, please put **'general'** in this column. **Please refer to section numbers and not page numbers.**

	Name:	
	Stakeholder Organisation:	**Faculty of Public Health**
Comment No.	**Section number** Indicate **section number** or **'general'** if your comment relates to the whole document	**Comments** Please insert each new comment in a new row.
1	General	The Faculty of Public Health (FPH) is the leading professional body for public health specialists in the UK. It aims to promote and protect the health of the population, and improve health services by maintaining professional and educational standards, advocating on key public health issues, and providing practical information and guidance to public health professionals.
2	General	FPH welcomes the development of guidance by NICE on this extremely important public health issue, estimated to result in over 26,000 deaths per year and to cost the NHS £1.7bn annually.
3	4.1.1	We assume that the population of all those aged 10 and above will include pregnant women, who have unfortunately been excluded from the scope of the clinical management guideline.
4	4.2	In view of the high prevalence of harmful and dependent alcohol use among those in the criminal justice system, it would be helpful if this setting could be specifically included, especially services in prisons.
5	4.3.1.m	It would be helpful if this also included illegal drug misuse, as there are considerable risks, including accidental overdose and death, for dependent and harmful alcohol users who may also be intermittent 'casual' users of illicit drugs. All staff working with harmful and dependent alcohol users need to be aware of these risks and how to provide appropriate harm reduction messages.
6	4.3.1 q	The recommendation to include the principal complementary and alternative interventions is particularly welcome.

7	4.3.2	It is unclear how the exclusion of the separate management of comorbid conditions relates to the inclusion criteria, especially 4.3.1. (m) 'Management of common mental health problems in the context of alcohol dependence, if this differs from the management of common mental health problems alone'. This also relates to comment number 4.
8	General	It would be helpful if the guideline could make specific recommendations about skill levels and staff training requirements for each recommended intervention, in the context of the Drugs and Alcohol National Occupational Standards (DANOS), especially as staff from a wide variety of backgrounds are usually involved in care pathways.

Please add extra rows as needed

Please email this form to: alcoholdep@nice.org.uk

Closing date: 5pm on Tuesday 20 January 2009

PLEASE NOTE: The Institute reserves the right to summarise and edit comments received during consultations, or not to publish them at all, where in the reasonable opinion or the Institute, the comments are voluminous, publication would be unlawful or publication would be otherwise inappropriate.