



**Re: NCEC Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance  
NCEC Prioritisation and Quality Assurance Processes for National Clinical Audit**

**Submission from the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland - The Pharmacy Regulator**

Introduction

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) is the statutory body, established by the Pharmacy Act 2007, to regulate the practice and profession of pharmacy having regard to the need to protect, maintain and promote the health and safety of the public.

The PSI welcomes this opportunity to make a submission to the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee regarding the following two documents:

- Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance
- Prioritisation and Quality Assurance Processes for National Clinical Audit Consultation

The PSI has reviewed both these documents and fully supports their aims. The PSI believes the introduction of standards in this area will prove useful for both those involved in drafting clinical guidance and for those using the guidance. We believe that these standards when used in tandem with robust processes through national clinical audit will reduce variation in practice and improve patient safety and quality of care.

Pharmacists, as the experts in medicines, have a key role to play with regard to the development of clinical guidance where relevant to their role and likewise in clinical audit. This role is acknowledged by the PSI as being essential in order to optimise patient health and safety. In particular we would see this being most relevant in the hospital setting.

We would welcome any further engagement with the NCEC in the future.

**Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland  
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