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| **General news & updates** | February 2013 |
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| **NICE good practice guidance on patient group directions –stakeholder registration**The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is developing good practice guidance on patient group directions (PGDs).A patient group direction (PGD) is a legal mechanism that allows named registered healthcare professionals to supply and/or administer medicines to groups of patients that fit the criteria laid out in the PGD. This good practice guidance will provide recommendations on the systems, processes and legislation relating to developing, authorising, using and updating PGDs by providers of NHS services, to ensure that patients receive appropriate and timely access to their medicines.The guidance development is following the NICE interim process statement for the production of good practice guidance. The process includes a four week period of consultation starting in March. The final version will be published in June.To submit comments during the consultation, an organisation must register as a stakeholder for this guidance. To register your organisation as a stakeholder\* send registration details (name of organisation, name of contact, email address) to [pgd@nice.org.uk](https://web.nhs.net/owa/redir.aspx?C=6zfvjC1bIE-13hEvtTrzwJbIyjYa5M9Idq001WeqroPg9Bsu9UZ6Ftd2em71F2tL4Fm3RSNfIug.&URL=mailto%3apgd%40nice.org.uk) using the subject heading **Patient group directions GPG stakeholder registration 2012/13**If you would like any further information regarding the project, please contact the project team via [pgd@nice.org.uk](https://web.nhs.net/owa/redir.aspx?C=6zfvjC1bIE-13hEvtTrzwJbIyjYa5M9Idq001WeqroPg9Bsu9UZ6Ftd2em71F2tL4Fm3RSNfIug.&URL=mailto%3apgd%40nice.org.uk).\*for the purposes of this guidance stakeholders are:* national patient and carer organisations that directly or indirectly represent the interests of people whose care is covered by the guidance
* national organisations that represent the healthcare professionals who provide the services described in the guidance
* companies that manufacture the medicines or devices used in the area covered by the guidance and whose interests may be significantly affected by the guidance
* providers and commissioners of health services in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
* statutory organisations including the Department of Health, the Welsh Assembly Government, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland, the Healthcare Commission and the National Patient Safety Agency
* research organisations that have done nationally recognised research in the area
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