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# UK Child Stroke Guidelines

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# Stroke & Children

## Epidemiology

- 1.3 – 13 / 100,000 children per year. Approx 400 children / yr
- Approx 50% ischaemic 50% haemorrhagic
- Delays to diagnosis; frequent comorbidity

## Risk factors

- Absent in around 50% of children with AIS.
- Most prevalent - arteriopathies, cardiac disorders, infection.

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## Stroke & Children - Outcome

- In top 10 causes of death in childhood
- Early injury not necessarily better outcome
- Childhood onset stroke – over half lasting neurological disability; emergence of sequelae impacting home and school
- Broader impact on family

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# Clinical Practice

## Guidelines

- National Clinical Guidelines 2004 (RCP) – ischaemic stroke, non-neonates
- CHEST antithrombotic guidelines 2012
- AHA Scientific statement management stroke infants & children 2008

## Services

- MRI as standard 2 dedicated stroke outpatient services – Evelina Children's Hospital, Great Ormond St Hospital
- Wide variation in service availability; typically short admission

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# Research

## International Pediatric Stroke Study – multicentre registry

### Focus of current child stroke research

- Risk factors
- Diagnosis – reducing delay
- Radiological classification
- Acute management
- Outcome across health domains

Rehabilitation studies beyond stroke population

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## What service users are telling us

**The Child Stroke Project** – partnership between the Stroke Association and Evelina London Children's Hospital

- Provision of family support service nationally
- Development of educational materials and raising public awareness
- Multicentre study of unmet needs

**House of Lords debates 2014 & 2015**

**Research priorities** of young people, carers, professionals

- Motor, cognition, communication (Edwards et al 2014)
- Optimal frequency and intensity of mainstream therapies (Morris et al 2015)

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## Childhood stroke guideline- What will be covered?

- The guideline will cover; Identification, Diagnosis, early management and rehabilitation of children aged >28 days with acute arterial ischaemic stroke and non-traumatic intra-cranial haemorrhagic stroke.
- Aiming at reducing the brain damage, preventing subsequent stroke, and optimising potential for function and participation.

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## Childhood Stroke guideline development –Who

Developer and publisher: RCPCH, Research & Policy division

Funder: Stroke Association

Guideline development group (GDG):

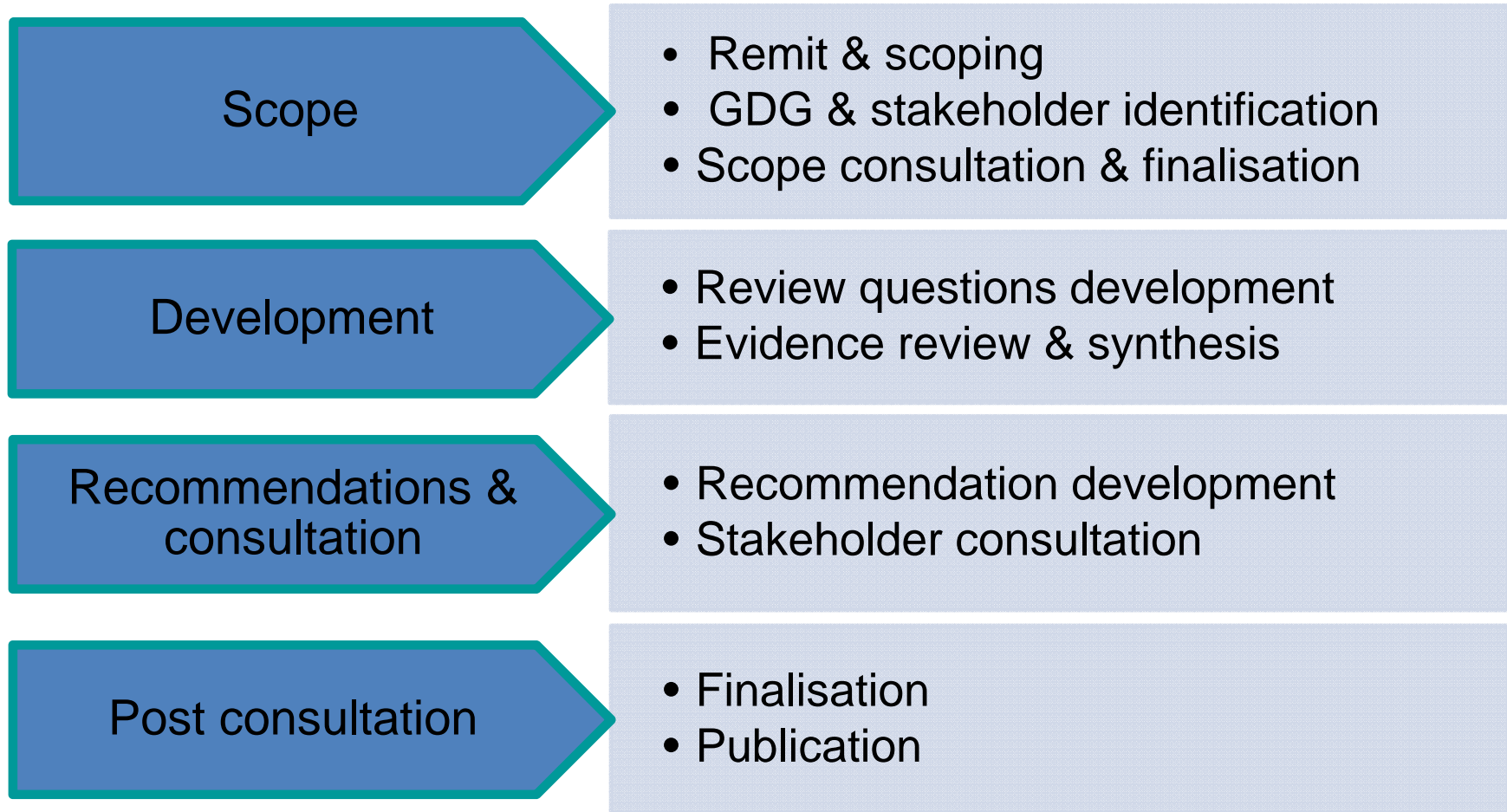
- Chaired by Dr. Vijeya Ganesan, Consultant Paediatric Neurologist and Lecturer Institute of Child health UCL.
- Clinical representation from over 20 professional bodies and charities as well as lay members.

Registered stakeholders: over 35 national and international bodies





# Childhood Stroke Guideline- the development process 2015-17



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## Clinicians' involvement

- GDG members
- Consultees on draft guidelines through their registered professional bodies or organisations
- Opportunities for involvement in consensus development and peer reviewing

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## Parents, children, young people and adults with personal experience of stroke in childhood – opportunities for involvement

- Input into the development of the draft guidelines:
  - Two lay members of the GDG.
  - Wider involvement through focus groups to capture personal experience, help fill evidence gaps on preferences and support needs.
- Reviewing the draft Guidelines.
- Development of lay communication/dissemination materials.
- Supporting the dissemination of the guidelines.

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## Stroke Guideline development- Progress

- Draft scope consulted on August 2015.
- Scope finalised and clinical questions developed.
- Searching and reviewing evidence is currently underway.
- Consultation on the draft guideline expected October 2016.
- Launch and publication of the final guideline planned for March 2017.

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## Childhood Stroke guideline- Expected outputs

- Full online guideline.
- Quick reference guideline for easy access.
- Lay summary
- Information booklet for parents and young persons.
- Wide dissemination to increase awareness supported by RCPCH and SA

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# THANK YOU

For more information or to get involved:  
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