



**INSTITUTE OF
OBSTETRICIANS &
GYNAECOLOGISTS**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND



**National
Women & Infants
Health Programme**

National Clinical Practice Guideline Programme **Guideline Update**

Summer 2024

National Clinical Practice Guideline Programme

The National Clinical Guidelines are a programme of work agreed between the National Women and Infants Health Programme (NWIHP) and the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (IOG) of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI). Professor Keelin O'Donoghue was appointed as NWIHP's Clinical Lead for Guideline Development (Maternity and Gynaecology) in 2021, joined by Ms Nicolai Murphy who was appointed as Programme Manager.

Within the Guideline Programme Team, Professor O'Donoghue is responsible for the review, update, and development and publication of National Clinical Guidelines in relation to Ireland's Maternity and Gynaecology services. A new guideline development process was established, including a multidisciplinary national Expert Advisory Group (EAG), who review and approve all Guidelines prior to publication, alongside other relevant stakeholders.

To date 20 Guidelines have been launched and a further 24 are underway

Documents related to this programme of work can be found at the links and QR codes below:

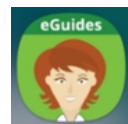
<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/acute-hospitals-division/woman-infants/clinical-guidelines/>



<https://www.rcpi.ie/Faculties-Institutes/Institute-of-Obstetricians-and-Gynaecologists/National-Clinical-Guidelines-in-Obstetrics-and-Gynaecology>



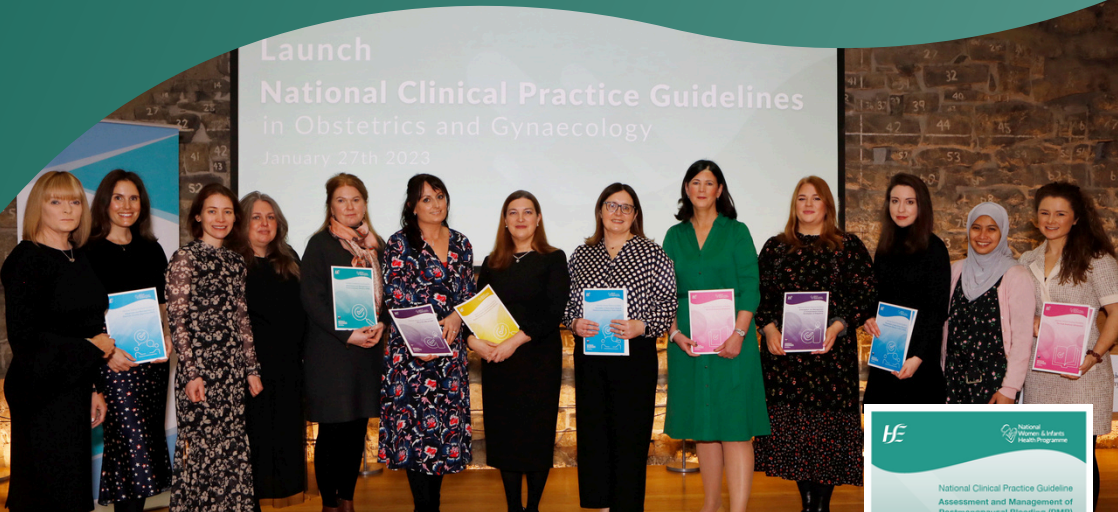
The Guidelines can also be accessed on the MEG eGuides App; which can be downloaded on [Google Play](#), or [Apple App Store](#)



The Guidelines are also available on the Eolas Medical App, which can be downloaded on [Google Play](#), or [Apple App Store](#), or accessed via your browser at <https://app.eolasmedical.com/>



Progress To Date Launch January 2023



Assessment and Management of Postmenopausal Bleeding

Duffy A, Ní Bhúinneain M, Burke N, Murphy C. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Assessment and Management of Postmenopausal Bleeding. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022

Diagnosis and Management of Placenta Accreta Spectrum

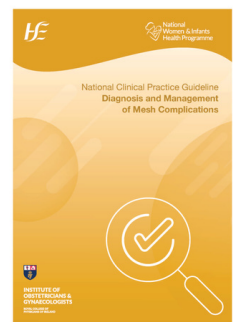
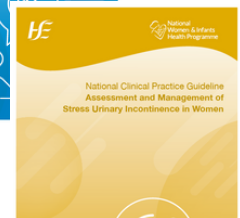
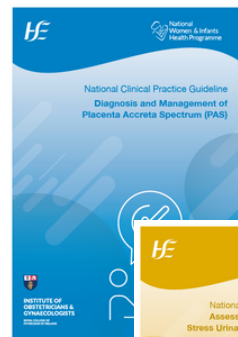
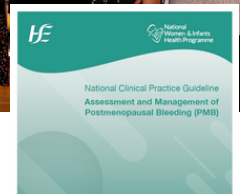
Bartels H.C, Walsh J.M, Ní Mhuircheartaigh R, Brophy D, Moriarty J, Geoghegan T, O'Leary M, Donnelly J. C, Colleran, G.C, Thompson, C, Cooney, N, Byrne, B, Downey, P, Greene, R, Higgins, S, Brennan, D.J. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Diagnosis and Management of Placenta Accreta Spectrum. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022

Assessment and Management of Stress Urinary Incontinence in Women

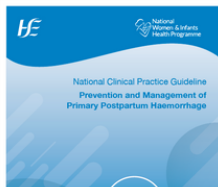
Craven S, Salameh F, O' Sullivan S. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Assessment and Management of Stress Urinary Incontinence in women. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022

Diagnosis and Management of Mesh Complications

Carey M, O'Reilly B, O'Sullivan O. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Diagnosis and Management of Mesh complications. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022

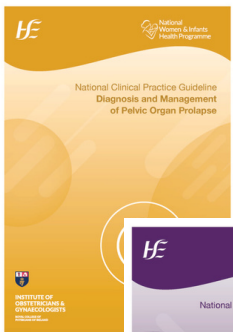


Progress To Date Launch January 2023



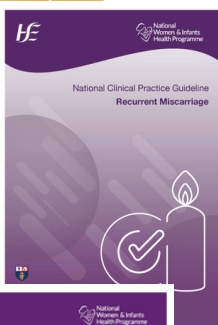
Prevention and Management of Primary Postpartum Haemorrhage

Byrne B, Spring A, Barrett N, Power J, McKernan J, Brophy, D, Houston C, Faryal R, McMahon E, Manning C, Murphy P, Ni Ainle F. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Prevention and Management of Primary Postpartum Haemorrhage. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, December 2022



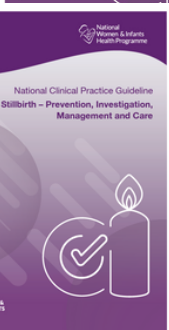
Diagnosis and Management of Pelvic Organ Prolapse

O'Leary B, Agnew G, Keane D. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Diagnosis and Management of Pelvic Organ Prolapse. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022



Recurrent Miscarriage

Linehan L, Hennessy M, Khalid A, Whelan J, O'Donoghue K. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Recurrent Miscarriage. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. January 2023



Investigation and Management of Complications of Early Termination of Pregnancy

Boyd S, Feeney S, Harte K, Hayes S, McCarthy C, Hayes-Ryan D. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Investigation and Management of Complications of Early Termination of Pregnancy. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. December 2022

Stillbirth: Prevention, Investigation, Management and Care

McDonnell A, Butler M, White J, Escañuela Sánchez T, Cullen S, Cotter R, Murphy M, O'Donoghue K. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Stillbirth: Prevention, Investigation, Management and Care. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. January 2023

Progress To Date Launch January 2023



The Fetal Anatomy Ultrasound

Fleming A, Corbett G, McParland P. National Clinical Practice Guideline: The fetal anatomy ultrasound. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. January 2023

Vaginal Birth After Caesarean Section

Ryan G, Duggan J, Finnegan C, Morrison JJ. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Vaginal Birth After Caesarean Section. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. January 2023

Prevention of Early Onset Group B Streptococcal Disease in Term Infants

Dakin A, Loughlin L, Ferguson W, Babu S, Power L, Dempsey G, Meehan M, Knowles S, Drew R, Eogan M. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Prevention of Early Onset Group B Streptococcal Disease in Term Infants. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. January 2023

Progress To Date Launch October 2023



Fertility-Investigation and Management in Secondary Care

Schäler L, O'Leary D, Barry M, Crosby DA. *National Clinical Practice Guideline: Fertility-Investigation and Management in Secondary Care. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. October 2023*

Induction of labour

Mitchell J.M, Nolan C, El Shaikh M, Cullinane, S, Borlase D. *National Clinical Practice Guideline: Induction of Labour. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. October 2023*

Management of rheumatic diseases in the preconception, antenatal and postnatal periods

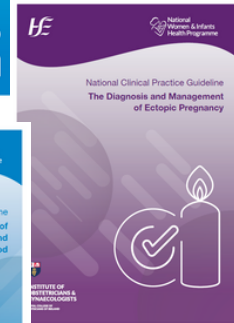
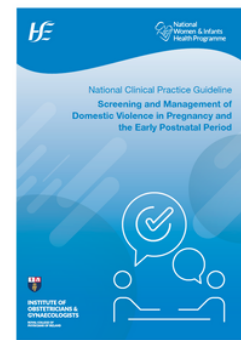
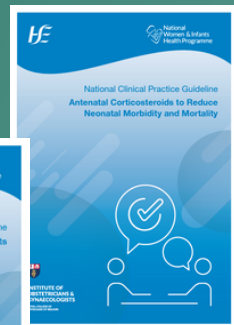
Gorman A, Moore L, O'Brien C, Soldati B, Veale DJ, McAuliffe FM. *Management of rheumatic diseases in the preconception, antenatal and postnatal periods. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. October 2023*

Varicella in pregnancy

Drew RJ, Barry R, Houlihan E, Cahill Ú, Farhan M, Gavin P, Geisler M, Knowles S, Lynch J, Lynch M, Ryan G. *National Clinical Practice Guideline: Varicella in pregnancy. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. October 2023*



Progress To Date Launch May 2024



Antenatal corticosteroids to reduce neonatal morbidity and mortality

Murphy S, Murphy E, Dineen A, Ryan J, Dempsey E, O'Donoghue K. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Antenatal corticosteroids to reduce neonatal morbidity and mortality. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. May 2024

Reduced fetal movements

Kalisse T, Farrell AM, Verling AM, Rutherford E, Ravinder M, Khalid A, O'Donoghue K. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Reduced Fetal Movements. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. May 2024

The diagnosis and management of ectopic pregnancy

Fee N, Begley B, McArdle A, Milne S, Freyne A, Armstrong F. National Clinical Practice Guideline: The Diagnosis and Management of Ectopic Pregnancy. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. May 2024

Screening and management of domestic violence in pregnancy and the early postnatal period

Webster J, Lawlor S, Kavanagh D, Breen A, Sheil O, McCarthy AM, O'Brien Green S, Kirby F, Leahy M. National Clinical Practice Guideline: Management of Domestic Violence and Abuse in Pregnancy. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. May 2024

New Guidelines Coming Soon!

Assessment and Management of Endometriosis

DeMaio A, McTiernan A, Durand O' Connor A, Reidy F, O' Neill A. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) and Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)

Petch S, O'Byrne L, Hartigan L, Muresan B, Keneally J, McMenamin M, Murphy C. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Fetal Growth Restriction – Recognition, Diagnosis and Management

McMahon G, McDonnell B, Mackin D, Kent E, Geary M. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Prevention and Management of Venous Thromboembolism in Pregnancy

Lutfi A, Meyer N, O'Shaughnessy F, Gaffney G, MacMahon P, Rebecca Cole, Spring A, Higgins JR, Ní Áinle F, Crowley M. National Women and Infants Health Programme, National Venous Thromboembolism Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

First Trimester Miscarriage

Crowley C, Dooley L, Spillane N, Manning L, McCarthy C, Hayes-Ryan D and O'Donoghue K. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Management of Suspected Preterm Labour

Dakin A, Harkin R, Boyle M, Staunton D, Franta J, Cleary B, Daly S. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Hypertensive disease in pregnancy

O'Byrne L, Baskaran R, Sherwood S, McCarthy F. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Monochorionic Multiple Pregnancy Management

Mullers S, Zibar D, McDonnell S, Malone C, Dalrymple J, Kent E, Malone F, Donnelly J, Boyle M. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Prenatal Diagnosis: Amniocentesis and Chorionic Villous Sampling

Redmond A.E, Doyle S, Ryan G, Rigney T, Hughes H, Cathcart B, Walsh J M. National Women and Infants Health Programme and The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Guidelines Underway

Assisted Vaginal Birth

Adult Vulval Lichen Sclerosus
Management

Diagnosis and Management of Menopause in
Secondary Care and Menopause Speciality
Services

Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring

Abnormal Uterine Bleeding

Obstetric Anal Sphincter Injury

Diagnosis and Management of
Unstable Lie

Umbilical Cord Prolapse - Prevention,
Recognition and Management

Hyperemesis and nausea/vomiting in
pregnancy

Diabetes in pregnancy

Postnatal contraception

Termination of Pregnancy for Fetal
Anomaly

Early Termination of Pregnancy

Pre-viable PPROM

Prevention of Preterm Birth

Midwifery Guideline Programme

A key recommendation set out in the National Maternity Strategy was that Clinical leadership, support and resources are provided for the development and implementation of National Clinical Guidelines and National Clinical Audit.

Following on from the establishment of the Maternity and Gynaecology Guideline Development Programme, NWIHP established the National Midwifery Guideline Development Programme 2022 led out by Angela Dunne, National Lead Midwife, National Women and Infants Health Programme (NWHIP) and Clare Kennedy, Assistant Director of Midwifery, National Women and Infants Health Programme (NWHIP).

Four midwifery guidelines were commenced under this programme relating to Midwifery care in the antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal period, as well as waterbirth. These guidelines will be submitted for review prior to publication to the EAG established by the Maternity and Gynaecology Guideline Development Programme.

The four Guidelines and their titles:

- **National Clinical Practice Guideline: Antenatal Care for Women on the Supported Care Pathway**
- **National Clinical Practice Guideline: Intrapartum Care for Women on the Supported Care Pathway**
- **National Clinical Practice Guideline: Postnatal Midwifery Care for Mother and Infant**
- **National Clinical Practice Guideline: Care of Women Choosing to use a Birthing Pool for Labour and/or Birth**

National Expert Advisory Group (EAG) for the Guideline Programme

The EAG is made up of a wide group of professionals and has public representation. Its purpose is to oversee the development and update of the National Clinical Guidelines for the Maternity and Gynaecology Services in Ireland. The group is Chaired by Prof O'Donoghue and co-chaired by Ms Murphy of the Guideline Programme Team.

The EAG reports to the programme team who in turn reports to the Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) for NWIHP in conjunction with the IOG.

The EAG meet 4-6 times annually to review clinical guidelines which are under development or being updated by a Guideline Developer Group (GDG) and, later, they assist with the communication and dissemination of the approved Guideline within their own relevant workplace structures.

The Programme team acknowledge the commitment of the EAG to the work of the Guideline programme and their professionalism in carrying out this time-consuming role. Their involvement in the process is very much appreciated.

Thanks to:

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Also thank you to former members from 2021-2023,

Dr Katherine Astbury, Dr Richard Duffy, Ms Clare Farrell, Ms Marie Finn, Prof Declan Keane, Ms Áine Kelly, Dr Fergus McCarthy, Dr Sarah Petch, Ms Margaret Quigley.

How to Get Involved

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