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By email: TAconsultation2018@nice.org.uk; Gavin.Kenny@nice.org.uk

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The Royal College of Radiologists' (RCR) response: Consultation on the updated Technology Appraisal (TA) Process Guide – launch of phase 2 consultation

Dear Gavin,

The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) works with our 10,500 members to improve the standards of practice in the specialties of clinical radiology and clinical oncology. We have confined our comments on this consultation to the area of interest to our members: the burden of consultations on busy clinicians with limited time.

The RCR supports the revised proposal that the time allocated to consultation periods should not be shortened. We agree that 20 working days response time is much better than the initial suggestion of ten working days.

However, we remain concerned that the proposed updates to the technology process do not acknowledge the amount of time required from our members, who have extremely busy clinical roles to engage meaningfully in the process. Amid a common context of staff shortages and workload pressure, our members partake in consultations despite this activity being unrecognised in their clinical roles.

Therefore, the RCR strongly encourages that this second phase of the consultation acknowledges the burden of TA consultations on clinicians with limited time – and seeks to alleviate it. Our phase one response will be helpful in this process. Once the burden is recognised, we hope to see proposals that will ensure our members can give meaningful responses in a sustainable manner.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jeanette Dickson
Vice- President, Clinical Oncology
The Royal College of Radiologists