

Department of Sexual Health

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JW/cb
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Regional GU Medicine Audit Chairs
Chair of GUNA, Chair of SHASTD

Re: UK Outcome Standards in Genitourinary Medicine

Over the last year there has been considerable discussion about developing robust, but achievable, standards for the treatment and partner notification of gonorrhoea and chlamydia. A wide range of different standards have been suggested, but some of these have been based on what has thought to be desirable, rather than what is necessarily achievable in practice.

The Clinical Effectiveness Group therefore felt that it would be useful to review the available evidence and develop evidence-based standards, in the same way as evidence is used to underpin clinical guideline development. Dr. Nicola Low, who is now working in public health in Bristol, carried out a literature search and reviewed the findings to produce the attached background paper.

Also attached is a summary document of the proposed standards.

We are proposing that there is a consultation period of three months, until the 1st of February, 2002, during which time I would be most grateful if comments could be sent to me.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Jan Welch FRCP
Consultant GU Medicine