



National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

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11 June 2009

Dear Mrs Lane

Updating CG56 Head Injury Guidelines

Apologies for the delay getting back to you. Andrew Dillon passed your letter on to me to reply. I was making some further enquiries and then went off sick for a few weeks.

Through the President of the Royal College of Physicians, I sought the opinion of a senior endocrinologist in the UK. Interestingly he has just completed a study similar to the ones from Italy and Dublin testing patients being followed up following head injury. His study which has not yet been published but will be submitted in a few months shows a very much lower incidence than previously seen. Although I am not denying the seriousness of this condition and the scope for a disastrous outcome if not recognised, this information together with the previous opinion of the chairman of the guideline group, leads us conclude that an immediate update is not justified.

I am aware of the importance of this issue to you and that this may not be the response you were hoping for but it's important for us to target our resources in a way that gives the most benefit to the largest number of people. However when the guideline is updated we will ensure that this issue is addressed.

Yours sincerely

Fergus Macbeth

Dr Fergus Macbeth

Centre for Clinical Practice Director NICE

*Fergus Macbeth
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*gone to
practice
10 p.m. - 5pm*

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~~XXXXXX~~

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