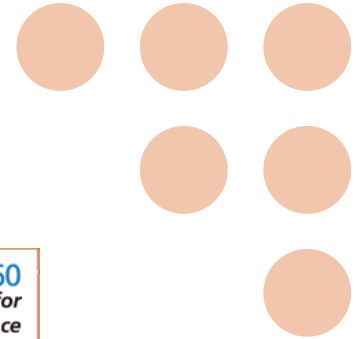


Case Study: NICE-IPAC

Rapid health technology assessment to inform national policy



The screenshot shows the NICE website interface. At the top right, the NHS60 logo and 'National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence' are visible. A navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Our guidance', 'Using guidance', 'Get involved', 'News & Events', and 'About NICE'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'Interventional Procedures Advisory Committee' and contains a description of the committee and a list of links: 'Members', 'Minutes', 'IPAC - terms of reference', and 'IPAC - standing orders'. A search box for NICE guidance is also present on the right side of the page.

In 2002 the National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence (NICE) established its Interventional Procedures Advisory Committee (IPAC). NICE-IPAC (now called NICE-IPP) mandates guidance for surgeons, patients and the NHS for a wide range of surgical procedures. However when NICE-IPAC was established, there was a raft of procedures that needed evidence-based assessment.

Bazian rapidly analysed the evidence from tens of thousands of studies relating to 72 different surgical procedures. We clearly identified which new procedures were effective and safe, which were not suitable for general use, and which were being performed in the absence of any reliable information about their efficacy and safety.

Bazian's reviews formed the foundation for NICE-IPAC's initial national guidance, helping to assure quality of care throughout the UK