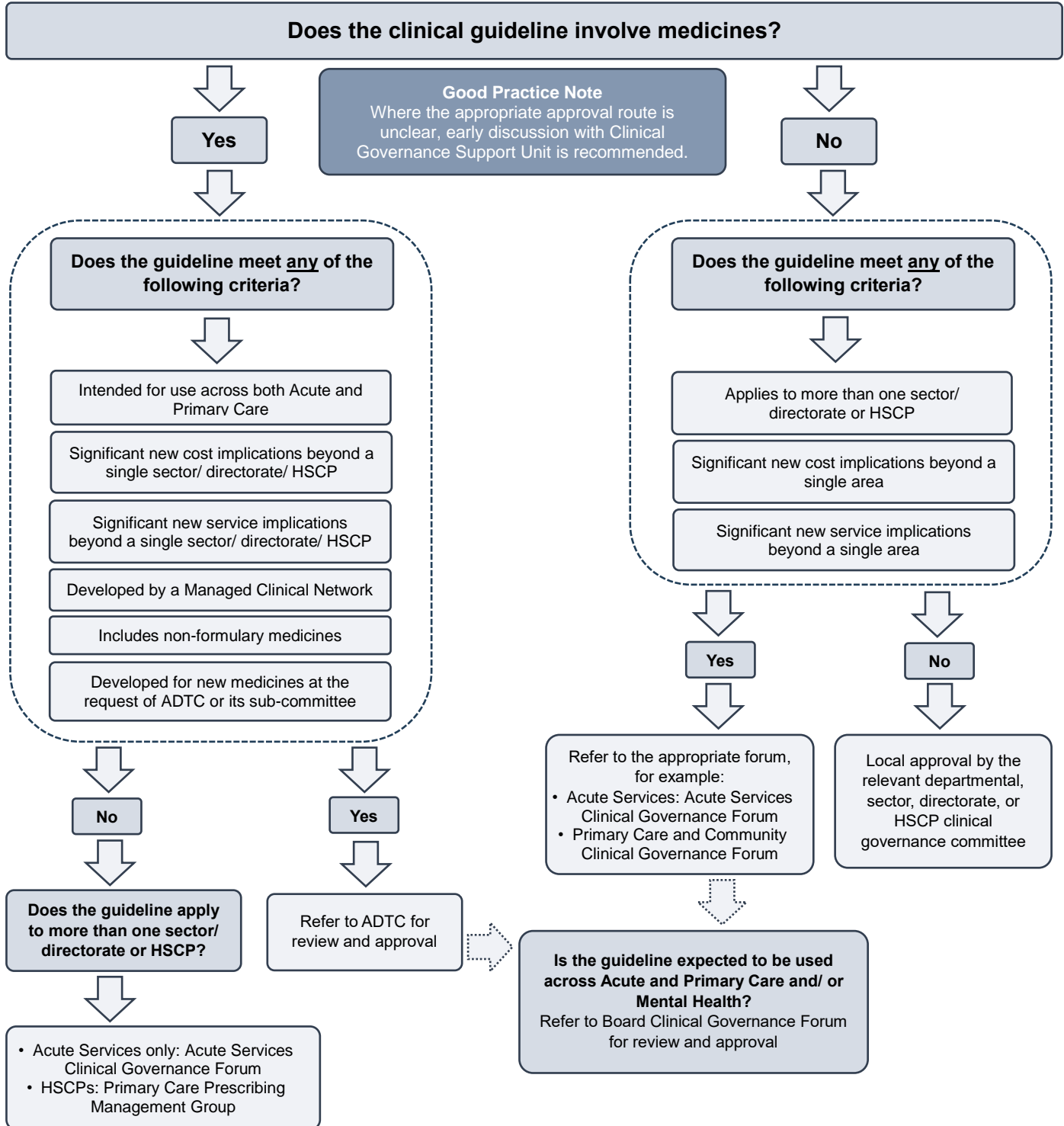


NHSGGC Clinical Guideline Approval Pathways

(For Clinical Guidelines Contained within the [NHSGGC Clinical Guideline Platform](#))

NHSGGC Clinical Guideline Approval Pathway

(For Clinical Guidelines Contained within the [NHSGGC Clinical Guideline Platform](#))



Clinical guidelines for cancer medicines:

Cancer medicines guidelines are generally developed regionally by RCAG-PASG and referred to ADTC for ratification, with additional approval through RSCG, PMG, and/ or ADTC required where there is off-label use, formulary variation, or significant service or cost impact

Clinical guidelines involving antimicrobial medicines:

Guidelines involving antimicrobial medicines are reviewed by the AUC Subcommittee on behalf of ADTC and may be escalated to ADTC for final ratification where required

This guidance assists authors in identifying the appropriate approval route for all new or updated clinical guidelines within NHSGGC. It should be used alongside the [NHSGGC Clinical Guideline Framework and Toolkit](#) resources

Clinical Guidelines Involving Medicines:

Referral to ADTC (Area Drugs and Therapeutics Committee):

Guidelines must be referred to ADTC if they:

- Are intended for use across Acute and Primary Care
- Have significant new cost or service implications beyond a single sector, directorate, or HSCP
- Include non-formulary or new medicines
- Are developed by a Managed Clinical Network (MCN)
- Are developed at the request of ADTC or its sub-committees

Sector or HSCP Approval:

If a medicines guideline applies to multiple sectors or HSCPs but has **no** wider system implications, approval may be granted by:

- Acute Services only: Acute Services Clinical Governance Forum
- HSCPs: Primary Care Prescribing Management Group

Clinical Guidelines Not Involving Medicines:

Board Clinical Governance Forum:

Refer guidelines to the Board Clinical Governance Forum if they are expected to be used across:

- Acute and Primary Care, and/ or
- Mental Health services

Sector or HSCP Approval:

Refer guidelines to the Acute Services Clinical Governance Forum or Primary Care and Community Clinical Governance Forum if they:

- Apply to more than one sector, directorate, or HSCP, or
- Have significant new cost or service implications

Local Approval:

Guidelines that apply only to a single department, sector, directorate, or HSCP and have no wider system impact may be approved via the local clinical governance forum

Specialist Medicines Guidance:

Cancer Medicines:

- Developed regionally by the Regional Cancer Advisory Group/ Prescribing Advisory Subgroup (RCAG-PASG)
- Referred to ADTC for approval
- Off-label use, formulary variations, regional deviations, or major service/ cost impacts may require additional approval by RSCG, PMG, and/ or ADTC

Antimicrobial Medicines:

- Reviewed by the Antimicrobial Utilisation (AUC) Subcommittee on behalf of ADTC
- May be escalated to ADTC in specific circumstances

Good Practice:

If the appropriate approval route is unclear, early discussion with Clinical Governance Support Unit (CGSU) is strongly recommended (gqc.clinical.guidelines@nhs.scot)