EVOLUTION OF NICE MEDTECH INNOVATION BRIEFINGS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED TECHNOLOGIES


Introduction

A MedTech Innovation Briefing (MIB) is a document produced by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). The purpose of a MIB is to create a document that can be used by commissioners, patients, patient groups and the NHS to find out about the current technologies and treatment options for a condition. A MIB will therefore describe a technology, how it is used and the potential role that it could have in the treatment pathway. A MIB will also review all of the published evidence about a technology that is considered relevant, and assess its likely costs. NICE first developed the briefings in 2013 to help boost and speed-up the uptake of innovative and promising technologies that have the potential to improve patient health and increase NHS productivity (Figure 1). Creating a MIB involves:

- Topic identification, prioritisation and selection
- Outlining what the device does and how it could be used in the treatment pathway
- Summarising any technical information about the product and the published evidence for the device
- Critically reviewing the published evidence
- Showing how the evidence for the device fits in with the evidence surrounding the management of the condition for which the device is intended to be used (NICE guidance is usually referred to at this stage)
- Potential implications for local decision-making or clinical practice are then highlighted

The objective of this analysis was to review and establish how MIBs have evolved over time since the publication of the first briefing in February 2014, and to identify trends in the technologies evaluated by this process.

Methods

Structured desk research was conducted. The number of MIBs produced per month was quantified and an analysis of the types of technologies included in the briefings was performed. Areas of interest included regulatory details, contributions from patient groups and specialists, and device cost.