**ENT UK Position Statement on Clinical Guidelines**

As a member benefit, ENT UK provides access to a series of up-to-date relevant Clinical Guidelines. Each published guideline has undergone Executive and sub-specialty Association review prior to being released. Clinical guidelines are then disseminated and logically archived for ease of reference.

The guidelines are designed to support the local delivery of care for patients presenting acutely or electively with ear, nose and throat complaints and pathologies. Each guideline may be displayed as a short document or PowerPoint slides with illustrated algorithms highlighting specific care pathways. On occasions, guidelines may justify a more comprehensive printed review with detailed recommendations for management.

Guidelines may be developed by various means: the ENT UK Executive Committee may request a specific guideline be written according to circumstance and urgency; ENT UK may commission a guideline and may include independent support by recognized national healthcare bodies and partner organisations. Guidelines are sometimes submitted independently by local departments, but will only be accepted following thorough critical evaluation accompanied by a comprehensive, contemporary (peer-reviewed and published) evidence-base.

Multidisciplinary or specialty-specific guidelines can be considered for sharing on any topic matter that would be of interest to our membership. These may relate to clinical presentation, disease or complication management, optimized clinical care pathways, the use of technology in healthcare, manpower, organizational and safety considerations, or any other areas deemed of relevance and interest.

Each submission is considered on its merit, and in the context of related or past guidelines that may have been produced on the same or similar topic matter. The guidelines are normally archived under General or Sub-specialty headings for ease of access within the password-enabled, member-only section of the ENT UK website. ENT UK is very conscious of maintaining control over the number of guidelines so as not to overwhelm the collection of guidelines. Guidelines that add little to established documents, or have the potential to confuse, or detract from the simplicity and clarity of previously supported guidelines are unlikely to be included within the current archive.