

PE1408/EE

Scottish Haematology Society Email of 22 March 2016

Dear Ms Robinson,

Thank you for your recent e-mail regarding B12 guidance.

The Scottish Haematology Society (SHS) is an informal society of interested members. Its main purpose is educational for the society's members.

The society does not have the size or resources of its much larger, British counterpart - The British Society for Haematology (BSH). The draft guidelines the SHS produced were hoped to be of use. These were produced as an aid for primary care as the BSH guidelines were produced for a specialist (Haematology) audience. As a summary they are, of course, by their nature more limited than the detailed BSH guidance.

However, the very considered responses we have received from the petitioners in response to the draft guideline indicate the limitations our small society has in trying to produce specific Scottish guidelines.

I trust you understand that the society's members primary obligation is to their own patients. Responses have to be assimilated from the Society - a time consuming process as the society has no formal guidelines working group, unlike the BSH. Equally, responses are dependent on the informal, good will of the society's members. Such activities are not part of formal job plans and are generally undertaken in members free time.

With regret the SHS must therefore withdraw from this process.

I do hope this does not disappoint you, and that you can understand this position.

The Society hopes that our responses to date have been of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Richard Soutar
Secretary for the Scottish Haematology Society