



**FOR
REFERENCE ONLY**

Dear Colleague

**SCOTTISH HEALTH PURCHASING INFORMATION
CENTRE**

**REPORT ON AMBULATORY BLOOD PRESSURE
MONITORS AND REPORT ON STENTS FOR
CORONARY HEART DISEASE**

Summary

1. Two Reports by the Scottish Health Purchasing Information Centre on Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitors and on Stents for Coronary Heart Disease are attached.
2. The Report on Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitors examines whether ambulatory blood pressure monitoring provides any advantage over clinic or surgery measurements, and if so, whether it leads to any health gain. It also examines the possible costs/savings to the NHS and benefits to patients from their widespread use.
3. The Report concludes that:
 - a. the case for widespread use of ambulatory blood pressure monitors is not proven at present;
 - b. further expansion of ambulatory blood pressure monitoring should be limited to situations in which well-designed evaluation is part of the service.
4. The Report on Stents for Coronary Heart Disease examines the value of stents as an addition to angioplasty.
5. The Report concludes that:
 - a. adding stenting to angioplasty is beneficial but at high cost;

Class	reference
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Date	

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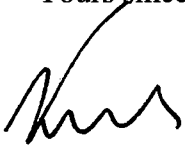
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b. angioplasty should be purchased only from units with stenting ability and high levels of expertise.

Action

6. Purchasers should use these Reports when assessing local needs. Health Boards are asked to pass copies of this circular to all General Practitioner practices within their area. Sufficient copies will be forwarded for this purpose.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin J Woods', written in a cursive style.

KEVIN J WOODS
Director of Purchasing