

Health Economics
New Medicines**Date**

2000 onwards

LocationGreater Glasgow NHS
Board**Key Partners**NHSQIS/
Scottish Medicines
Consortium.
Greater Glasgow NHS
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Decision-making on the availability of new drugs has changed quite dramatically over the last five years. With the advent of national agencies such as the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) and NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHSQIS) allocation of resources to new drug development depends on clinical effectiveness and now also with specific focus on cost-effectiveness. At Greater Glasgow NHS Board, cost-effectiveness has played an integral part in decision-making on new drugs for the last ten years with local level economic evaluations being prepared for senior board officers.

Since 2002 decision-making on the clinical and cost-effectiveness of new medicines in Scotland has been centralised to a large degree by the creation of the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC). As a consequence of this shift, GGNHSB's health economist has provided monthly input to the SMC process instead. Decision-making on new drug developments at the health board level is now more concerned with reviewing and implementing guidance issued by the SMC and other bodies, considering affordability and priority setting.