



Australian Government Department of Health

Life Saving Drugs Program medicines: Gaucher disease

Final Review Protocol

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Introduction

On the 15th October 2018, the Australian Government Department of Health (the 'Department') engaged HealthConsult to undertake: *'a review of the medicines included on the Life Saving Drugs Program (LSDP).'*

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE REVIEW

The LSDP, administered by the Commonwealth Department of Health, was established in the mid-1990s to provide people with rare and life-threatening diseases access to expensive medicines that were not considered to be cost effective for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing. The LSDP currently fully subsidises 14 life-saving high cost medicines to approximately 400 patients for the treatment of nine rare diseases. In January 2018, following a review of the LSDP, the Australian Government committed to a number of program improvements, including a review of the medicines currently funded under the LSDP and the establishment of an Expert Panel (EP) to provide advice to the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW

The purpose of each of the LSDP reviews (i.e. nine disease-based reviews undertaken in three tranches) is to develop a better understanding of the real-world use of a medicine by comparing the current use performance of the medicine against the recommendations and expectations at the time of listing. The review will assess the clinical benefits achieved through the use of LSDP medicines, ensure the ongoing viability of the program; and ensure testing and access requirements for the medicine remain appropriate.

This Review Protocol for Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines was prepared by HealthConsult. Its development was informed by consultations (with the EP, Gaucher disease Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) and LSDP sponsors) as well as a stakeholder forum (including representatives from Gaucher Association of Australia and New Zealand, Pharmaceutical Sponsors, EP and CAG members) and a documentation review (e.g. prior reviews of LSDPs, registry publications etc). This final Review Protocol describes the methodology that will be used by HealthConsult to address each Term of Reference (ToR) for the Review of Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines.

1.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The draft ToR for the review of LSDP medicines for Gaucher disease were open to public consultation from 14th September 2018 to 5th October 2018. The LSDP Expert Panel considered the draft ToR, together with comments from stakeholders, at its 17th October 2018 meeting. The ToR were endorsed by the CMO on 10th December 2018. The seven endorsed ToRs for the Review of LSDP medicines for Gaucher disease are:

- **ToR 1:** Review the prevalence of Gaucher disease (Type 1) within Australia.
- **ToR 2:** Review evidence for the management of Gaucher disease (Type 1) and compare to the LSDP treatment guidelines, patient eligibility and testing requirements for the use of these medicines on the program (including the validity of the tests).
- **ToR 3:** Review clinical effectiveness and safety of medicines and evaluate the evidence of comparative effectiveness of LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines. This will include analysis of LSDP patient data and international literature to provide evidence of life extension.

- **ToR 4:** Review relevant patient-based outcomes that are most important or clinically relevant to patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1).
- **ToR 5:** Conduct an analysis of the value for money of LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines under the current funding arrangements.
- **ToR 6:** Review the utilisation of LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines, including the way they are stored and dispensed, and evidence of patient compliance to treatment.
- **ToR 7:** Investigate developing technologies that may impact future funded access.

It is important to note that the order of the endorsed ToRs, nor the order of research questions or data sources included in the Review Protocol reflect their level of importance or the order in which the Review will occur.

ToR 1: Prevalence

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 1 “*Review of the prevalence of Gaucher disease within Australia*”.

The purpose of ToR 1 is to understand the prevalence of Gaucher disease (Type 1) within Australia and estimate the future impact of the eligible cohort on the LSDP.

2.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 1

To address ToR 1, an analysis of the disease prevalence of Gaucher disease (Type 1) in Australia will need to be undertaken, where *prevalence* refers to the “number or proportion (of cases, instances, etc.) present in a population at a given time”.¹ Table 2.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 1 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 2.1: Research questions to address ToR 1

ToR 1 research questions	Data sources				
	Systematic literature review	LSDP patient-level data	Diagnostic laboratory data	Gaucher Registry data	Stakeholder consultations
1. What is the prevalence of Gaucher disease in Australia?	+	+	+	+	+
2. What proportion of patients with Gaucher disease are eligible to access treatment under the LSDP?	-	-	+	+	+
3. What proportion of all eligible Gaucher disease patients are accessing the LSDP?	-	+	-	+	+
4. Has the prevalence of Gaucher disease in Australia changed since government subsidies on drugs for treating type 1 Gaucher disease became available?	+	+	+	+	+
If outcomes of ToR2 indicate a change in eligibility criteria					
5. What proportion of Gaucher disease patients would be eligible for the LSDP if eligibility criteria is modified?	-	-	+	+	+

The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

2.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

A systematic literature review will be undertaken that focuses on identifying published data in peer-reviewed articles on the prevalence of Gaucher disease (Type 1). Published relevant literature will be searched to provide a current look at prevalence numbers. The search will include articles published since 2009. Table 2.2

summarises the literature search criteria that will be used to address ToR 1. Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B.

Table 2.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 1

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms	Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify reports relating to the incidence and prevalence of Gaucher disease will guide the search. Details of the terms to be used are provided in Appendix D.
Databases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMBASE • Medline • Cochrane Library
Other means to identify relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Websites of regulatory agencies: TGA, PBS, FDA, MHRA, EMA • Public health statistics: ABS, AIHW, Orphanet, HealthData.gov (US), ONS (UK), StatCan (Canada), • Newborn screening studies • Manual scan of reference lists
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text systematic reviews, literature reviews, clinical trials publications, reports and guidelines reporting on outcome measures for Gaucher-specific ERT, and data cubes
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles published from 2009^a • Conference abstracts published since 2017^b
PICO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population: people diagnosed with Gaucher disease • Intervention: not applicable, this is a review of prevalence • Comparator: not applicable, this is a review of prevalence • Outcomes: not applicable, this is a review of prevalence
Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not relate to patients with Gaucher disease. • Does not relate to the prevalence of Gaucher disease.

Abbreviations: ABS, Australian Bureau of Statistics; AIHW, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; EMA, European Medicines Agency; ERT, Enzyme replacement therapy; MHRA, Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency; ONS, Office for National Statistics; PBS, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; TGA, Therapeutic Goods Administration; ToR, Terms of reference.

^a Prevalence was not previously reviewed in 2015 therefore a 10-year retrospective date limit will be applied

^b Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

2.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

The LSDP patient-level data includes information on patients currently receiving subsidised medicines for the treatment of Gaucher disease, however, not all eligible patients may be receiving treatment with agents available through the LSDP (refer to Section 2.8 on Limitations). The patient-level program data is updated through an annual re-application process. The number of patients approved for LSDP medicines will be used to inform the prevalence of Australians diagnosed with Gaucher disease from when the program commenced data collection on patient applications/re-applications.

It is noted that Australian Gaucher disease patients who fail to meet the eligibility criteria set out by LSDP Guidelines are not registered nor monitored in the LSDP patient-level data. Hence this data source is likely to provide an underestimate of the actual prevalence. However, the LSDP patient-level data will only be one data source, albeit an important data source, used as a basis to inform the estimation of prevalence of Gaucher disease in Australia. The LSDP patient-level data should provide a solid basis for informing the prevalence of Gaucher disease patients who are receiving subsidised therapy within Australia.

2.4 DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY DATA

Although the diagnosis of Gaucher disease can be delivered by clinicians working across several Australian health care services, there are a limited number of laboratories in Australia that perform the testing to diagnose Gaucher disease. As such, attempts will be made to access data from these laboratories to estimate the incidence of new cases of Gaucher disease. Annual incidence of new cases, since 2009 (if the data is available) can then be used in conjunction with the expected mortality rate of Gaucher disease to calculate and project the

prevalence of Gaucher disease prevalence figures and expected mortality rate to calculate and project disease prevalence.

2.5 GAUCHER DISEASE REGISTRY DATA

HealthConsult will seek to access Gaucher disease registry data. There are two key sponsor-supported registry databases of relevance including:

- **International Collaborative Gaucher Group (ICGG) Gaucher Registry:** This is an ongoing observational, international multi-centre, registry that tracks the routine clinical outcomes for patients with Gaucher disease (all types)² irrespective of treatment status ($n \approx 12,000$). It commenced in April 1991 with an estimated completion date January 2030. It is currently operated by Sanofi Genzyme with two study sites in Australia.³
- **Gaucher Disease Outcome Survey (GOS):** This is an ongoing observational, international, multi-centre, long-term Registry of Patients with Gaucher disease irrespective of their treatment status or type of treatment received ($n = 1,257$). It commenced in July 2010 with an estimated completion date December 2020. It is currently run by Shire.⁴ HealthConsult have been advised that there are no Australian patients on this registry so whilst it cannot assist to determine the prevalence of Gaucher disease in Australia, it could provide a valuable global reference point.
- **Australian Registry:** A record of Australian patients who are receiving LSDP drugs for a rare disease condition.⁵ In 2014, there were 61 Gaucher disease patients recorded in the Australian Registry. It is understood that this Registry also included Gaucher disease patients not receiving LSDP drugs. The Australian Registry was decommissioned in 2014. Although this data source is some four years out of date it will provide a valuable data source to inform prevalence up until 2014.

The number of Australian patients in the registries will be factored into determining the present Gaucher disease prevalence. Changes in the annual number of registered Australian patients since 2009 will also be analysed.

2.6 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

Expert opinion will be used to supplement information retrieved through other ToR 1 data sources described above. Expert opinion, will be sought from clinicians and peak consumer organisations to inform factors affecting disease prevalence in Australia; to determine the number of Gaucher disease patients being treated within outside the LSDP; the reasons why individuals are not accessing LSDP drugs; if any Gaucher disease patients are eligible for the program but elect alternative treatment; and number of patients enrolled in clinical trials.

Expert opinion will be used to supplement other ToR 1 data sources as a means of reducing uncertainty, particularly with incomplete or outdated sources of information.⁶ Guidance provided in Appendix 1 of the PBAC Guidelines (v5.0) will inform the approach that will be used to elicit and present expert opinion.

2.7 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

Attempts will be made to identify specific measures of prevalence relating to:

- total prevalence versus prevalence of patients eligible for treatment with enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) under the LSDP
- proportion of eligible patients who are treated under the LSDP
- prevalence of asymptomatic individuals with a confirmed diagnosis, for instance, individuals who are positive for genetic biomarkers of Gaucher disease and display normal enzyme levels and/or mild symptoms
- prevalence of adults (aged 18 and over) versus paediatric patients, and
- prevalence of male versus female patients.

These indicators of disease prevalence will be comparatively analysed across different data sources to inform ToR 1 including: systematic review, the LSDP patient-level data, LSDP dispensing data, diagnostic laboratory datasets, and the various Gaucher disease registries.

The systematic review will provide an evidence base of secondary sources indicating the prevalence of Gaucher disease patients in Australia. This evidence base will be used to address research questions 1 and 2 of ToR 1. HealthConsult may either directly extract or adapt any in-scope prevalence and/or population statistics from article inclusions. Any statistical insight into incidence rates and/or mortality rates are likely to influence total count of Gaucher disease cases over time and may therefore need to be factored into calculations to determine total disease prevalence.

Research question 3 will be addressed by taking the number of patients observed in the LSDP patient-level dataset as a proportion of the eligible population, as determined in ToR 1 research question 2. The eligible population will be determined via:

- analysis of Australian diagnostic laboratory datasets that include information on patient characteristics related to the LSDP eligibility criteria, and/or
- estimation by subtracting the number of ineligible patients (such as those enrolled in clinical trials) from total disease prevalence estimated in research question 1.

Variations in the annual statistics of Gaucher disease cases, pre and post introduction of the LSDP subsidised medicines, will be used to inform research question 4. Additionally, discussion pieces from authors of systematic reviews may also be incorporated into the analysis to provide context around related data, for instance, discussion on driving factors behind change in prevalence over time. The data obtained may also assist to better understand the number of new patients expected to be diagnosed annually.

The true prevalence of Gaucher disease may be difficult to ascertain however estimates can be obtained through various data sources. Additional data sources provide prevalence estimates by proxy however under and over reporting of prevalence should be considered when analysing of results.

The discussion will also include the applicability of the results of the trials to the population for whom ERT is available on the LSDP and, also, the population for who ERT should be available, if findings from ToR 2 indicate that a change to current eligibility criteria might be warranted.

2.8 LIMITATIONS

It is noted that some Australian Gaucher disease patients may not be identified in the LSDP patient-level data. Some patients may be exclusively registered on international registries if, for instance, they have sought novel treatment modalities. While publications based on clinical trials data typically identify countries of patient recruitment sites and/or country of patient cohorts, the data in these articles are often presented at aggregate level where Australian data is mixed in with international cohorts. Attempts will be made to retrieve Australian data from commercial registries which are used for clinical trials. Without this trial data, total Australian disease prevalence calculations will likely represent an underestimate. Attempts will be made to access data from Australian diagnostic pathology laboratories to obtain evidence to supplement the LSDP patient-level data.

The accuracy of disease prevalence calculations will rely heavily on information about Australian patient numbers in clinical trials, and commercial patient registries.

A limitation faced in ToR 1 will be the availability and completeness of identified datasets. Patient privacy guidelines will prevent the obtainment of patient-level data which can be cross-referenced to identify individuals included in multiple datasets to be used in ToR 1. This will impact estimation of the eligible population. Determination of incidence of new patients diagnosed in Australia will likely depend on access to pathology laboratory datasets. The limitation with these datasets includes potential double counting and/or duplication captured by multiple diagnostic laboratories. For example, within National Reference Laboratories (NRL), all

confirmed diagnosis of enzyme activity may be remeasured in some patients and screening for Gaucher disease conducted in remote laboratories. Also gaps in the data may be due to family members surrounding an index case that refuse screening, asymptomatic and late onset patients who have yet to be screened and those that qualify for LSDP medicines and do not use it.

ToR 2: Management of Gaucher disease in comparison to LSDP guidelines

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 2 “Review evidence for the management of Gaucher disease (type 1) and compare to the LSDP treatment guidelines, patient eligibility and testing requirements for the use of these medicines on the program (including the validity of the tests).” An overview of the diagnosis and management of Type 1 Gaucher disease (including a clinical algorithm) is in Appendix C.

The purpose of ToR 2 is to:

- understand how the LSDP patient eligibility criteria (including initial and ongoing testing protocols and their validity) compares against best practice management of Gaucher disease, both domestically and internationally, and
- determine which approach is the most appropriate based on available evidence if there is a variation between clinical practice and LSDP patient eligibility.

3.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 2

To address ToR 2, a comparative analysis of the evidence on the diagnosis and management of Gaucher disease both internationally and locally, will need to be undertaken, and compared to how this evidence aligns with the current LSDP guidelines. Table 3.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 2 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Fundamentally, the research questions seek to understand how the patient eligibility criteria (including testing protocols and the validity of those testing protocols) required for access to ERT under the LSDP compare with international clinical guidelines (e.g. are the LSDP criteria more extensive or concise than recommended in treatment guidelines internationally). Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 3.1: Research questions to address ToR 2

ToR 2 research questions	Data sources		
	Systematic literature review	LSDP patient-level data	Stakeholder consultation
1. What is the current best practice model for the diagnosis and management of Gaucher disease (i.e. adult and paediatric)? What is the quality of evidence underpinning this approach?	+	-	+
2. What are the eligibility criteria for initial <u>and</u> ongoing access to LSDP medicines? What is the quality of evidence underpinning these requirements?	+	+	+
3. Are there any inconsistencies between clinical best practice and the LSDP eligibility criteria? If yes, which is more appropriate based on evidence?	+	+	+

The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

3.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

The systematic literature review will focus on identifying the clinical indications for, and management of Gaucher disease with LSDP medicines. Table 3.2 summarises the literature search criteria that will be used to address ToR 2. Ideally, literature will be available to provide insight into international treatment algorithms and/or similar international programs, national/international guidance documents, testing regimes and treatment modalities for different Gaucher populations (such as adult compared to paediatric).

Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B. The relevant PubMed search string can be found in Appendix D (refer to Section D.2).

Table 3.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 2

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify clinical guidelines will guide the search. Details of the terms are provided in Appendix D.
Databases	<p><u>Peer reviewed articles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMBASE Medline Cochrane Library <p><u>Clinical guidelines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline Central (www.guidelinecentral.com) Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines Portal (www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au) G-I-N (www.g-i-n.net) NORD (www.rarediseases.org) AHRQ (www.ahrq.gov) SIGN (www.sign.ac.uk) NICE (www.nice.org.uk)
Other means to identify relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBAC PSDs for Gaucher disease medicines Product information documents for Gaucher disease medicines on the ARTG Other relevant websites (e.g. Rare Voices Australia)
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian and international evidence-based clinical practice guidelines on the pharmacological management of Gaucher disease
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles published from 1999^a Conference abstracts published since 2017
Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not an evidence-based clinical practice guideline, e.g. position statements with no references Guidance does not relate to Gaucher disease

Abbreviations: AHRQ, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; ARTG, Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods; G-I-N, Guideline International Network; NICE, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; NORD, National Organization for Rare Disorders; PBAC, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee; PSD, Public Summary Document; SIGN, Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network; ToR, Term of Reference

a Analysis to be split into pre-2014 and post-2014 **b** Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

3.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

The LSDP patient-level data will provide real-world evidence on which medical tests are performed to determine (a) whether patients are eligible for initiation of treatment and (b) whether patients initiated on treatment are eligible for continued access to subsidised Gaucher disease treatment in Australia. An analysis of the type and frequency of tests administered for LSDP application/re-application will be undertaken. This data will be required to describe what tests are currently being undertaken on patients on the LSDP and the adherence to the annual testing requirements.

3.4 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The use of expert opinion to address the research questions in the review will follow the methods described in Appendix A of the PBAC guidelines.⁷ This includes detailing the criteria for selecting experts, number of stakeholders/experts approached, number who provided information, methods used to collect responses, questions asked and others.

Questions asked of stakeholders will be aimed at obtaining information which could not be obtained through any other source.

Stakeholders, including clinicians, clinical advisory group (CAG) clinicians and Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand, will be approached to provide comments and insight into:

- the current access criteria
- the role of the required tests in making clinical decisions and in-patient monitoring
- the ongoing access criteria for patients (paediatric and adult cohort)
- the impact of LSDP requirements on a clinician's service.

Any conflicting opinions arising through the consultation process will be also be managed as is consistent with guidance provided by the PBAC guidelines.⁷ As multiple sources of opinion would be available, results will be compared and their concordance (or lack thereof) will be assessed. Consequently, once assessed, a justification for the choice of data to be used in the review will be provided. As part of the assessment (where possible) stakeholders' opinions will be compared to the literature.

3.5 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

The ToR 2 systematic review will seek to identify the key recommendations in clinical guidelines (local and international) for assessing a Gaucher disease (Type 1) patient's suitability for ERT. The review will outline the eligibility criteria that patients need to meet to obtain access to ERTs that are funded under the LSDP. Eligibility criteria in terms of baseline, initial response criteria, continuation criteria and the clinical utility of these tests over time will be examined. This will include subpopulation analysis where possible (e.g. paediatric and adult). The quality of evidence supporting the clinical recommendations and eligibility criteria will also be assessed. Consequently, these two parameters will be compared, and the more appropriate of the two will be determined based on the quality of the available evidence. Using the qualitative data gathered through stakeholder consultations, together with the secondary data sources, will provide the evidence base to answer research questions 1, 2 and 3 of ToR 2.

3.6 LIMITATIONS

There is the possibility that there are (a) no formal clinical guidelines for the treatment of Gaucher disease, and (b) differences in clinical practice by treating physicians. In addition, clinical algorithms and patient management pathways from international sources may differ to the Australian Gaucher disease pathways due to different patient demographics or national health policies. For example, treatments used in other countries may not be available in Australia. These differences will be assessed and discussed. It is also possible that not all patient tests recommended by the LSDP guidelines are performed on each patient and/or this data is submitted to the Department as part of the application processes. Consequently, this could impact on the assessment as to whether the current recommendations and eligibility for accessing LSDP medications are being met.

ToR 3: Clinical and comparative effectiveness and safety of medicines

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 3 “Review clinical effectiveness and safety of medicines and evaluate the evidence of comparative effectiveness of LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines. This will include analysis of LSDP patient data and international literature to provide evidence of life extension.”

The purpose of ToR 3 is to review the available evidence investigating the effectiveness and safety of current LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines (i.e. imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase) and compare this to the natural history of the disease in the absence of such treatments and the initial expectations at the time of listing on the LSDP. The treatments will also be compared to each other.

4.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 3

To address ToR 3, current LSDP subsidised medicines imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase will be compared to standard treatment of care in the absence of LSDP medicines and against each other. Comparisons based on alternate dosing schedules will also be investigated as will any evidence on the stabilisation of disease progression and/or extension of survival due to Gaucher disease medicines. Table 4.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 3 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 4.1: Research questions to address ToR 3

ToR 3 research questions	Data sources		
	Systematic literature review	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data
Clinical effectiveness and safety			
1. How does the effectiveness and safety of imiglucerase compare to when it was listed on the LSDP? ^{a, b}	+	+	+
2. How does the effectiveness and safety of velaglucerase compare to when it was listed on the LSDP? ^{a, b}	+	+	+
3. How does the effectiveness and safety of taliglucerase compare to when it was listed on the LSDP? ^{a, b}	+	+	+
4. What is the effectiveness and safety of imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase compared to each other? How does this compare to the original estimates at the time of LSDP listing? ^{a, b, c}	+	+	+
Life extension			
5. Is there evidence that the Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines have stabilised disease progression and/or extended survival? ^{a, b}	+	+	+
6. Are the age-adjusted rates of mortality different between Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines (or to natural disease history)? ^{a, b}	+	+	+
If outcomes of ToR2 indicate a change in eligibility criteria			
7. What is the effectiveness and safety of imiglucerase in alternate eligible populations? ^d	+	+	+
8. What is the effectiveness and safety of velaglucerase in alternate populations? ^d	+	+	+

ToR 3 research questions	Data sources		
	Systematic literature review	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data
9. What is the effectiveness and safety of taliglucerase in alternate populations? ^d	+	+	+
10. What is the effectiveness and safety of imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase compared to each other in alternate populations? ^d	+	+	+

Abbreviations: HTA, Health Technology Assessment; LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program;

a Search will be restricted to capture original pivotal trials that informed the medicines inclusion on the LSDP are required to inform clinical effectiveness and safety research questions

b Search will be restricted from 2012 to identify any new evidence since the last LSDP 2015 published report with a 2-year retrospective evidence retrieval and evaluation

c Unrestricted search for taliglucerase (Elelyso). A full review will be required for taliglucerase as it was not assessed within the previous LSDP post market review

d Unrestricted search date as evidence has not previously been seen by LSDP EP

The primary population of interest, patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1), is defined by the current LSDP eligibility guidelines, which require confirmation of the diagnosis of Gaucher disease (Type 1) by the demonstration of specific deficiency of glucocerebrosidase enzyme activity in leukocytes or cultured skin fibroblasts, or by the presence of mutations in the glucocerebrosidase gene (i.e. known to result in severe deficiency of enzyme activity in tissue or peripheral blood leukocytes) and that the patient has Gaucher disease (Type 1) related skeletal disease and/or related haematological and/or gastrointestinal complications.⁸ However, if outcomes of ToR 2 indicate that a change in eligibility criteria may be warranted, outcomes in alternate populations will also be presented. Outcomes for all the primary endpoints and the key secondary and exploratory endpoints assessed in the studies will be presented. At a minimum, key efficacy and safety outcomes presented in the original submissions seeking reimbursement will again be presented. However additional outcomes may be presented if the findings from ToR 4 indicate that other outcomes are important from a clinical or patient perspective. Table 4.2 presents the PICO.

Table 4.2: PICO supporting ToR 3

Criteria	Description
Study design	The primary objective of the literature search is to locate all randomised trials comparing imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase to placebo and imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase to each other to identify head to head studies ^a
Population	Australian Gaucher disease (Type 1) patients who are eligible to receive LSDP funded medicines
Intervention	Enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • imiglucerase (Cerezyme) • velaglucerase (Vpriv) • taliglucerase (Elelyso)
Comparator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supportive care (or placebo in initial RCT) • Imiglucerase (Cerezyme), velaglucerase (Vpriv) and taliglucerase (Elelyso)
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results for primary endpoints assessed by the retrieved studies will be presented • Results for key secondary and exploratory endpoints assessed by the studies will be presented • At a minimum (and to the extent that they are available), results for the following outcomes (which were judged as being important at the time the ERTs for Gaucher disease (Type 1) were reimbursed under the LSDP) will be reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ incidence of and time to occurrence of key clinical events including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ key infection, bleeding and disease risk (e.g., haemoglobin, platelet, white cell, urea, creatinine, LFT measures, chitotriosidase (or glucosyl sphingosine, if chitotriosidase is null)) ▪ key hepatosplenomegaly events (e.g., spleen and liver size, etc); and ▪ key skeletal events (e.g., signs of bone oedema on MRI, frequency of bone pain, bone crisis event, bone density scores (z and t scores)) ➢ lung function measures (FEV1, respiratory failure); ➢ quality of life ➢ overall survival ➢ safety and adverse events related to imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase treatment • In addition, outcomes for other endpoints that may be of interest given the findings from ToR2 will be presented (to the extent that they are available)

Criteria	Description
Other SLR considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No study size limits will apply Subgroup analysis: by dose (e.g. doses consistent with TGA listing, as well as experimental dosing regimens) by age (stratified by paediatric and adult)

Abbreviations: ERT, enzyme replacement therapy; FEV1, forced expiratory volume in one second; LFT, Liver function test; LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program; RCT, randomized controlled trial; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; TGA, Therapeutic Goods Administration

a If direct head to head trials are not identified a search will be conducted for randomised trials of either the proposed medicine or the main comparator to generate an indirect treatment comparison. If no trials are suitable for an indirect treatment comparison the search will be broadened to identify nonrandomised trials.

Table 4.3 summarises the literature search criteria that will be used to address ToR 3. Further detail on the systematic review methodology, potential search terms for PubMed and other data sources are provided in Appendix D.

Table 4.3: Literature search criteria for ToR 3

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms ^a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms for Gaucher disease (Type 1) and an appropriate filter to identify articles on clinical effectiveness and safety will guide the search. Details of the terms are provided in Appendix D.
Databases of peer-review literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMBASE (Embase.com)^c Medline (via PubMed)^d Cochrane Library Databases (Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials)^e
Other means to identify relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ClinicalTrials.gov^f International Clinical Trials Registry Platform^g Australian Clinical Trials Registry^h Internal registries (Original PBAC funding application pivotal trials that informed the medicines inclusion on the LSDP) Other (Hand-searching of primary articles to identify additional studies; Database of Adverse Events Notifications Data from ARTG; PBAC PSD for imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase; Product information documents for Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines on the ARTG; AIHW National Death Index data and Cause of Death data; Shire and Genzyme websites, Gaucher disease (Type 1) registry and GOS published registry data reports)
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studies in humans Studies published in English and articles not published in English Exclude: editorials, letters, non-clinical studies
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from the initial LSDP listing trials will be includedⁱ Articles published from 2014 will be eligible for imiglucerase and velaglucerase^j. Unrestricted search date for taliglucerase^k Conference abstracts published since 2017^l
Study exclusion criteria ^b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duplicate data Wrong study type: Not a randomised controlled trial Wrong population: Does not include patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1) Wrong intervention: Incorrect intervention (not imiglucerase (Cerezyme) or velaglucerase (Vpriv) or taliglucerase (Elelyso)) Wrong comparator: Not compared to the relevant comparator (placebo (or standard therapy in absence of placebo); imiglucerase (Cerezyme) or velaglucerase (Vpriv) or taliglucerase (Elelyso) for direct head to head studies)

Abbreviations AIHW, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; ARTG, Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods; GOS, Gaucher Outcome Survey; LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program; MeSH, medical subject headings; PBAC, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee; PSD, Public Summary Document; RCTs, Randomised Controlled Trials

a Potential search terms are located in Appendix D

b Selection process will be adapted when relying on an indirect comparison of randomised trials or nonrandomised evidence

c <https://www.embase.com>

d <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

e <https://www.cochranelibrary.com>

f <https://clinicaltrials.gov>

g <https://www.who.int/ictcp>

h <http://www.anzctr.org.au/>

i Search will be restricted to 1999 to capture original pivotal trials that informed the medicines inclusion on the LSDP are required to inform clinical effectiveness and safety research questions

j Analysis to be split into pre-2014 and post-2014

k Unrestricted search for taliglucerase (Elelyso). A full review will be required for taliglucerase as it was not assessed within the previous LSDP post market review

l Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

4.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

A systematic literature review will be conducted to address ToR 3. From this literature, the effectiveness and safety of imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase in a clinical trial setting will be determined. The primary objective of the systematic literature review is to identify all RCTs in the proposed population to allow a comparison of the effectiveness and safety of the medicines in the trial setting with effectiveness and safety of the medicines as observed in practice in LSDP patients.

A comparison of outcomes achieved with imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase will also be conducted. If RCTs comparing imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase to each other are not identified, a search will be conducted to identify other trials of either imiglucerase or velaglucerase or taliglucerase. These trials can be used to conduct an indirect treatment comparison. If direct RCTs or other RCTs retrieved are not suitable for an indirect comparison, the original search will be broadened to identify all non-randomised studies of patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1) comparing imiglucerase, velaglucerase to taliglucerase each other.

The systematic literature review will be conducted in accordance with PBAC Guidelines (v 5.0). If necessary (e.g. if data for a key patient relevant endpoint are not captured by RCTs), data from RCTs will be supplemented with data from non-randomised studies (e.g. cohort studies, case-control studies and quasi-experimental studies). Outcomes will be directly related to the quality and/or length of a patient's life and will constitute the best available clinical evidence to support the effectiveness and safety of the LSDP medicine. The study selection process for each search will be presented in a PRISMA flowchart (see Appendix B, Section B.4). A list of included trials and excluded trials and reasons for exclusion will be provided. If an indirect comparison is required, a network diagram will be provided to show common reference links. Heterogeneity and potential for bias within and across trials will be assessed. Important differences in quality of methods of trials, differences in patient characteristics differences in circumstances of use of treatment and the potential for such differences to confound results will be discussed. In addition, the appropriateness of the endpoints assessed in the trials and methods of statistical analysis of those endpoints will also be assessed.

Original PBAC funding application pivotal trials that informed the medicines inclusion on the LSDP will be identified in a separate systematic literature review search. In addition to the published evidence, sponsors of the medicines included on the LSDP will be invited to provide unpublished clinical study reports (CSRs) relating to any potentially relevant trials.

4.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

Treating clinicians who wish to apply for their patients to receive LSDP medicines are required to declare that their patient meets the criteria for initial and ongoing eligibility to access subsidised treatment. As part of the LSDP subsidised medicine re-application process, clinicians must demonstrate clinical improvement in their patients or stabilisation of the patient's condition to support ongoing eligibility for the treatment of Gaucher disease (Type 1). Hence this information is captured in the LSDP patient-level data.

To inform research question 1, 2, 3 and 4 (clinical effectiveness and safety in trials versus outcomes observed in patients on the LSDP), an analysis of the LSDP patient-level data will be undertaken to assess the impact of each medicine on outcomes over time (by medicine type). The results of these analyses will be compared against the pivotal trial estimates that informed the LSDP medicine listing. The data will also be analysed to assess the impact, if any, of increasing weight/dose/age/comorbidities on haematological, gastrointestinal and skeletal outcome events. Individual patient trajectories and dose response curves will also be generated and compared across different LSDP Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines. Rates of adverse events will be compared and contrasted across dose, age, date of diagnosis, alternative treatment regimens and again compared to original pivotal trial results. The limitations to this analysis are discussed in Section 4.6.

To inform research questions 5 and 6 (stabilised disease progression and/or life extension), an analysis of LSDP patient-level data will be used to describe the demographic profile (including age, gender) of patients by LSDP medicine prescribed. Together with data on the date of commencement and cessation, HealthConsult will profile the effect of the medicine on stabilised disease progression and/or life extension and mortality in the Australian population accessing LSDP medicines for Gaucher disease (Type 1). This data will be compared to the natural history of the disease, mortality and the stabilised disease progression and/or life extension effects of different Gaucher disease (Type 1) medicines identified in the systematic literature review.

4.4 LSDP DISPENSING DATA

LSDP patient-level data linked to LSDP dispensing data will allow analysis to assess the impact of variations around recommended dose regimens on the clinical effectiveness over time as well as the impact of age on outcomes. These analyses will inform research question 1, 2, 3 and 4. The analysis will include descriptive statistics on date of dispensing, date of infusion, number of days between dispensing and dispensed amount, supplemented by analysis of clinical notes (where appropriate). Together this information will inform whether there are any clinical trends with variations in dose and/or age. Additional analysis will be presented comparing consistencies in dosing against imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase, from the recommended doses in the original pivotal trials and the TGA recommended dose in the product information (PI).

4.5 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

The clinical effectiveness and safety research questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be informed by an analysis of the totality of the available published evidence (and any relevant unpublished evidence that may be provided by sponsors). And additional evidence that has been generated since the PBAC's consideration of the products listed on the LSDP. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 will also be informed by LSDP patient data outcomes. All analyses will be supplemented by any evidence identified in the systematic literature review relating to clinical effectiveness and safety generated at the time of PBAC's consideration of the products listed on the LSDP compared to post since 2012 (i.e. post 2015 review).

Research questions 4 will require additional analysis to include a comparative analysis of the effectiveness and safety of the medicines listed on the LSDP based on the published evidence (and unpublished evidence provided by sponsors) and based on analysis of patient-level data from the LSDP program. To the extent that it is possible, differences in haematological, gastrointestinal and skeletal endpoints will be assessed. Also, LSDP dispensing data will be used to analyse trends (by descriptive statistics on date of dispensing, infusion, days between dispenses and amount) to confirm consistency in efficacy against original trials and between different treatments, as well as exploring the impact of patient compliance to treatment (note that compliance will be further explored in ToR 6). Finally, we will compare the doses currently being used to the dosing used in the original trials to the recommended dose in the TGA approved product information.

Stabilised disease progression and/or life extension research questions 5 and 6 will be informed by the systematic literature review on the natural history of Gaucher disease (Type 1) and stabilised disease progression and/or mortality/survival, analysis of LSDP patient-level data and LSDP medication duration. To gain a comprehensive understanding on the effects of LSDP medicines on patient longevity and age-adjusted survival, we will seek to do an analysis of AIHW National Death Index data and Cause of Death data to LSDP patient-level data.

The information gathered for ToR 3 will be presented in accordance with the guidance provided in Section 2 of the current PBAC guidelines. For example, the information in the publications identified by the systematic literature review will include assessment of internal validity; a presentation of the interventions(s) and comparators assessed by the trials, patient characteristics in the trials, endpoints assessed by the trial and the

methods of statistical analysis, efficacy and safety outcomes of the trials. Any relevant subgroup analyses or meta-analysis will also be presented. Finally, treatment effect variation that is related to differences between the trial setting and the Australian setting will be discussed. The discussion will also include the applicability of the results of the trials to the population for whom ERT is available on the LSDP and, also, the population for who ERT should be available, if findings from ToR 2 indicate that a change to current eligibility criteria might be warranted.

4.6 LIMITATIONS

The quality of LSDP patient-level data could represent a major limitation in the evaluation of effectiveness. Factors that may cause bias in the LSDP patient-level data include:

- loss to follow up (patients that discontinue treatment due to disease progression, mortality or adverse events; overseas relocation; personal choice; participation in a clinical trial)
- missing/inconsistent outcome data
- deviations from recommended dose regimen
- variations in time on treatment
- age of initiation of treatment
- severity of disease.

HealthConsult will conduct a sensitivity analysis to test the robustness of certain assumptions from the patient-level program data and separate results on particular outcomes if the data is available.

Other limitations include:

- A lack of a control group in patients on the LSDP program as data is collected on symptomatic patients who qualify for LSDP funded medicines. There is no asymptomatic or 'control group' of patients that have Gaucher disease (Type 1) and who do not qualify for LSDP funded medicines. The Gaucher registry may provide information on patients not eligible for LSDP medicines. This will be further investigated and utilised if suitable.
- The difficulty in analysing the difference between progression of the natural history of Gaucher disease (Type 1) versus the impact of aging.
- Impact of stock shortages and forced switching protocols.

Overall, if the patient level program data has a high level of uncertainty it may not be appropriate to perform inferential statistics and descriptive statistics may be more appropriate.

ToR 4: Relevant patient-based outcomes

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 4 *“Review of relevant patient-based outcomes that are most important or clinically relevant to patients with Gaucher disease”*.

The purpose of ToR 4 is to identify the treatment outcomes that are highly valued by patients with Gaucher disease and their clinicians.

5.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 4

To address ToR 4, an analysis of patient-based outcome items for patients receiving medicines funded under the LSDP will need to be undertaken. ‘Patient-based outcomes’ are also known as ‘patient-centred outcomes’ or ‘patient-reported outcomes’ (PRO) and refer to “how health services and interventions have, over time, affected a patient’s quality of life, daily functioning, symptom severity, and other dimensions of health which only patients can know”.⁹ Table 5.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 4 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 5.1: Research questions to address ToR 4

ToR 4 research questions	Data sources		
	Systematic literature review	LSDP patient-level data	Stakeholder consultation
1. What outcomes are most important to paediatric and adult patients who are being treated with LSDP medicines for Gaucher disease (Type 1) and their clinicians?	+	+	+
2. How can administration of the LSDP be improved (within reason) to help patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1) and their clinicians? Does the administration need to be different for paediatric and adult patients?	–	–	+

The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

5.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

The systematic review will focus on identifying Gaucher disease PROs related to ERT. Table 5.2 summarises the literature search criteria that will be used to address ToR 4. Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B.

Table 5.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 4

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms	Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify reports relating to the incidence and prevalence of Gaucher disease will guide the search. Details of the terms to be used are provided in Section D.4 of Appendix D.

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Databases of peer-review literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMBASE • Medline • Cochrane Library
Other means to identify evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical trial articles included for analysis in ToR 3 • Clinician input and Clinician international sponsor registry data (e.g. ICGG Gaucher Registry) • Scan for relevant grey literature, including reports from Gaucher disease (Type 1) patient organisations and peak bodies • Scan of social media, blogs, and self-help websites for PROs and PRO-like patient concerns regarding their treatment experience or Gaucher specific PRO tools^a • Patient-centred outcomes research online resources such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ PCORI (www.pcori.org) ➢ ISPOR (www.ispor.org) ➢ The Hastings Center (www.thehastingscenter.org) ➢ PROMIS (www.healthmeasures.net) ➢ COMET (www.comet-initiative.org)
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text reviews, clinical trials, reports and guidelines reporting on patient-centred outcome measures for the treatment of Gaucher disease. • English language and reputable trials not published in English (translated by an external provider)
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles published from 2012^b • Conference abstracts published since 2017^c
Study exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not relate to patients with Gaucher disease. • Does not relate to patient-centred outcomes. • A patient questionnaire or outcome measurement tool without reporting on results.

Abbreviations: CAG, Clinical Advisory Group; COMET, Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials; ISPOR, International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research; LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program; PCORI, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute; ToR, Term of Reference.

^a Elstein, D; Panter, C; Bonner, N; Johnson, C; Zimran, A (2019). Gaucher disease (GD)-specific patient-reported outcome (PRO) measure for clinical monitoring and for clinical trials. Poster presented at the 15th Annual WORLD Symposium, USA.

^b Search will be restricted from 2012 to identify any new evidence since the last LSDP 2015 published report with a 3-year retrospective evidence retrieval and evaluation

^c Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

5.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

The LSDP patient-level data contains patient monitoring and outcomes data related to the quality of life whilst on ERT. This data source will provide both the data and the domains or measures of quality of life (from PRO measures or PROM tools) that will be cross-referenced with findings from the ToR 4 systematic review and stakeholder consultations to address research question 1.

5.4 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

HealthConsult intend to consult with (i) consumers and/or consumer advocacy groups (e.g. Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand), (ii) clinicians and (iii) sponsors. Input from consumers is crucial in addressing all ToR 4 research questions. Stakeholder engagement to seek expert opinion on patient-relevant outcomes will occur in line with current PBAC Guidelines.⁶

The stakeholder consultation process will be designed to gather data to address ToR 4 research questions. The gathering of stakeholder input may include focus groups, an online survey, teleconference, webinar(s) and/or one-on-one interviews (by telephone, face-to-face and/or via videoconference). Prior to the stakeholder consultations, all invited individuals will be provided with a stakeholder interview/forum protocol (except those providing input by online survey). The protocol will explain the purpose of the interviews/forums as well as include a list open-ended questions which will be used to facilitate discussions. The online survey will set the context through a brief presentation of information prior to commencement of the survey.

Stakeholder consultations will begin with a presentation of patient reported outcomes identified in the literature review and LSDP patient-level dataset. The forum and/or interviews will then open to a facilitated group

discussion where participants are given the opportunity to describe their experience with LSDP medicines and what outcomes are most important to them.

The collection and reporting of expert opinion from patients and clinicians will be conducted in accordance with guidance provided in Appendix 1 of the PBAC Guidelines v.5.0.

5.5 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

In addressing the research questions, attempts will be made to stratify patients (where appropriate) by: age, gender, location of infusion (e.g. hospital, home or self-administered), and/or severity/ disease progression.

Thematic analysis of stakeholder input gathered against each question will be undertaken to identify the most valued patient-relevant outcomes by stakeholder group. This analysis will inform research questions 1 and 2.

5.6 LIMITATIONS

Development and/or refinement of PROs and PRO measures (PROMs) is a highly specialised area of research. It typically involves rigorous needs analysis, conceptualisation, testing, and validation^{10, 11}, beyond the activities to be undertaken in ToR 4. Therefore, further study may be required to test the validity of ToR 4 PROs identified as being important to LSDP patients, for instance, assessing if PROs are indeed a direct result of Gaucher disease medicines under the LSDP.

Being a rare disease, Gaucher disease patient populations are inherently small. As such, PROM tools to measure Gaucher disease-specific PROs may not have been developed.

Requested CAG and clinician international sponsor registry data may obtain aggregate data but patient level data is unlikely.

ToR 5: Value for money of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 5 “*Conduct an analysis of the value for money of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines under the current funding arrangements*”.

The purpose of ToR 5 is to conduct an economic analysis assessing the costs of the medicines funded under the LSDP relative to the benefits they provide.

6.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 5

To address ToR 5 an economic analysis of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines funded under current arrangements will be undertaken. If findings from ToR 1 indicate that changes to the funding criteria are warranted then an economic analysis under alternate funding arrangements will also be considered. Consistent with all Government investments an economic model will be developed to provide Government with a standard output of value for money (e.g. QALY or ICER). Also, to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the LSDP program funded by the Australian Government an economic model will be required to investigate whether the actual costs are consistent with predicted costs as included in the initial LSDP listing. The type of economic model developed to address ToR 5 will take into consideration the availability of evidence, as identified through the review process. Table 6.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 5 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 6.1: Research questions to address ToR 5

ToR 5 research questions	Data sources						
	Systematic literature review ^a	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data	LSDP pricing data	PBAC submissions	MBS, PBS, AR-DRGs	Stakeholder consultation*
1. What is the total annual cost of treating a patient with the LSDP medicines? Is this different to what was expected at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP (e.g. actual vs predicted)?	-	+	+	+	+	-	+
2. What difference in quality of life is estimated for successfully treated and untreated patients with Gaucher disease? Is this different to what was expected at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP (e.g. actual vs predicted)?	+	+	-	-	+	-	-
3. What difference in survival is estimated for successfully treated and untreated patients with Gaucher disease? Is this different to what was expected at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP (e.g. actual vs predicted)?	+	+	-	-	+	-	-
4. Is there a difference in costs or outcomes associated with each of the two LSDP medicines?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

ToR 5 research questions	Data sources						
	Systematic literature review ^a	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data	LSDP pricing data	PBAC submissions	MBS, PBS, AR-DRGs	Stakeholder consultation*
5. How do the costs and outcomes associated with each of the LSDP medicines compare with the costs and outcomes of standard of care?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Abbreviations: AR-DRGs, Australian Refined – Diagnosis Related Groups; LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program; MBS, Medicare Benefits Schedule; PBS, Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule; PBAC, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

^a Includes HTA websites * only required if other data sources do not yield the required information

The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

6.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

Two systematic literature reviews (described under Table 6.2) will be conducted to source information for ToR 5. These systematic literature reviews will focus on economic evaluations and quality of life. Table 6.2 summarises the literature search criteria that will be used to address ToR 5. The search strings used in the literature search criteria are based on Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health's (CADTH) Database Search Filters.¹² The relevant PubMed search string can be found in Appendix D (refer to Section D.5). Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B.

Table 6.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 5

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify economic evaluations and quality of life measures will guide the search. Details of the terms are provided in Section D.5 of Appendix D.
Databases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMBASE Medline Tufts Medical Centre CEA Registry University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination Health Economic Evaluations Database (HEED)
Other means to identify relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Websites of HTA and reimbursement agencies: NICE, CADTH, SMC Manual scan of reference lists of included articles
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full text systematic reviews, literature reviews, clinical trial publications, economic evaluation reports, and reimbursement application reports Available in English
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles published from 2012^a Conference abstracts published since 2017^b
Study exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not relate to patients with Gaucher disease For the search of economic evaluations: Does not include an economic model For the search on quality of life: Does not include quality of life scores

Abbreviations: ToR, Term of Reference; CEA, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis; HTA, Health Technology Assessment; NICE, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; CADTH, Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health; SMC, Scottish Medicines Consortium; HEED, Health Economic Evaluations Database

^a Search will be restricted from 2012 to identify any new evidence since the last LSDP 2015 published report with a 3-year retrospective evidence retrieval and evaluation

^b Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

- (1) An economic evaluation requires articulation of health states that reflect the key possible clinical presentations of Gaucher disease. The first search of peer-reviewed literature, including EMBASE, Medline, Tufts Medical Centre CEA Registry, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination and the Health Economic Evaluations Database (HEED) will be conducted in order to identify economic evaluations in Gaucher disease.

To supplement these database searches, the HTA agency websites of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the CADTH, and the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) will be searched

for relevant economic evaluations. Past submissions to the PBAC and LSDP for Gaucher disease will also be reviewed. The purpose of these searches is to use existing published work to inform the development of the economic evaluation for this review, including the health states of the model, and structural variables such as cycle length and time horizon.

Any models sourced from the literature will be assessed based on their relevance to the funding of LSDP medicines. In particular the health states employed in the economic evaluation should be consistent with the major clinical complications of Gaucher disease. If none of the models identified are appropriate for the review, health states and outcomes will be identified from the clinical literature and an economic evaluation will be constructed which is consistent with PBAC guidelines. The results of this literature review will address research question 1 of this ToR and will subsequently be used in the development of the economic model for research question 4.

- (2) The second search will seek to identify information on mortality and quality of life for patients with Gaucher disease. A systematic literature review on the impact of LSDP treatment on mortality and quality of life is being undertaken to address ToR 3. Therefore, those results will be considered prior to any additional search being undertaken for ToR 5. This search will inform research questions 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Quality of life outcomes will be modelled by using peer-reviewed literature to assign utility values to the health states of the model. An alternative methodology will involve mapping quality of life scores to or SF-36 physical component score (PCS) and mental component score (MCS) using the LSDP patient-level data. The literature search conducted for quality of life measures will identify publications reporting utility values for the desired health states, or methodologies for mapping the SF-36 to utility values. Both methodologies will be used to address research question 2.

6.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

The LSDP patient-level data will be analysed to inform what non-LSDP medicines are used in the treatment of Gaucher disease. The use of medicines unrelated to Gaucher disease will be distinguished from those that are related by consulting with clinicians regarding which non-LSDP medicines they use to manage the symptoms and complications of the disease. Medicines not related to the treatment of Gaucher disease will be excluded from the modelled economic evaluation.

The list of concomitant medicines for each Gaucher disease patient will be used to calculate the amount of drug use for the average patient on treatment with LSDP medicines. This resource will be used to address research question 1 of ToR 5 and subsequently in research questions 4 and 5.

In addition to the list of concomitant medicines to be generated from patient level data from the LSDP program, available SF-36, PCS and MCS will be mapped to utility scores to address research question 2.

6.4 LSDP DISPENSING DATA

The LSDP dispensing data will be used to calculate how much of the drug was dispensed to each patient in order to calculate the cost of treating a patient for a year. This will be used to address research question 1 and to construct the economic evaluation for research questions 4 and 5.

6.5 LSDP PRICING DATA

The unit costs obtained from the LSDP pricing data will be used to calculate the total cost of LSDP medicines per patient. This analysis will be conducted separately for each Gaucher disease medicine on the LSDP. The cost of treating a patient using LSDP medicines will be used to inform research questions 1, 4 and 5.

6.6 PBAC SUBMISSIONS

The approach to the economic evaluation taken in previous submissions to the PBAC or LSDP will be considered in the development of the economic evaluation. This will include the type of economic evaluation (e.g. cost-effectiveness or cost-utility), computational methods (e.g. Markov process, microsimulation, decision tree), time horizon, and any other relevant parameters. Any issues the PBAC had with the economic evaluations presented will also be considered.

6.7 MBS, PBS, AR-DRG COST WEIGHTS AND NATIONAL EFFICIENT PRICE DATA

Unit costs for resources used in the management of Gaucher disease will be sourced in accordance with guidance contained in the Manual of resource items and their associated unit costs.¹³ For example, the MBS schedule will be used to source unit costs for medical services, the PBS schedule will be used to source unit costs for medicines, and AR-DRG cost weights and the national efficient price will be used to source unit costs for episodes of hospitalisation. Unit costs will be used to address research questions 1, 4 and 5.

6.8 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION (IF REQUIRED)

If values for inputs to the economic evaluation cannot be sourced from evidence from higher levels in the hierarchy of evidence (as described in Sections 6.2 to 6.7), expert opinion will be sought. The collection and reporting of expert opinion from patients and clinicians will be conducted in accordance with guidance provided in Appendix 1 of the PBAC Guidelines v.5.0.⁷ Expert opinion may include data obtained through surveys undertaken by Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand and/or CAG/clinician international sponsor registry aggregate data.

6.9 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

The economic evaluation will be constructed and reported in accordance with the guidance provided in the PBAC guidelines⁷, which specify the elements of the full economic model to be presented. We will present:

- the type of economic evaluation, computational methods, and health states
- the costs associated with the treatment options, and
- the quality of life for patients with Gaucher disease.

Research questions 4 and 5 will be addressed by integrating information assembled in addressing the previous research questions. Costs and outcomes for LSDP-eligible patients treated with imiglucerase, taliglucerase, velaglucerase and for standard of care will be reported. Standard of care will be clearly defined, this may include ERT or non-specific standard of care therapies. Pair-wise comparisons will be developed to compare treatment options against each other. The 2015 Review will be consulted for any information relevant to the development of the economic evaluation.

Validation will be performed as per the PBAC guidelines.⁷ Internal validation will be performed by using traces to examine the flow of patients through the model, and checking the change in the final results due to changes in other model parameters to ensure that the logic of the model is correct. External validation will be performed by comparing the model traces and results with empirical data and by comparing the model to other valid modelled economic evaluations of Gaucher disease. Inclusion of indirect costs in economic models (e.g. days off work, missed school, carer burden etc) and societal perspective economic evaluations are not accepted by PBAC. However, this review will seek to gather narrative on these issues through the stakeholder consultations so that they can be included in the discussion of value for money in the Review Report.

6.10 LIMITATIONS

The most significant limitation in ToR 5 is that the clinical evidence may not be sufficient to produce a high-quality economic evaluation or to allow for meaningful external validation. The validity of any economic evaluation depends on the quality of the evidence. In the case of Gaucher disease, it is likely that relatively few clinical studies exist, and the ones that have been conducted are likely to have recruited low numbers of patients. An additional issue is that modelling of surrogate outcomes to patient-relevant outcomes such as mortality and quality of life may be required. Such modelling may decrease confidence in the results of the economic evaluation. These limitations may impact important elements of the economic evaluation, such as the outcome to be modelled, which cannot be decided on until the clinical evidence is reviewed. These decisions will be based on the quality of the evidence uncovered during the review and discussion with the LSDP Expert Panel.

ToR 6: Utilisation of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 6 *“Review the utilisation of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines, including the way they are stored and dispensed, and evidence of patient compliance to treatment”*.

The purpose of ToR 6 is to review how LSDP funded medicines are used to ensure quality use of medicines. This includes analysing patient doses, duration of treatment, switching between medicines and patient compliance.

7.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 6

To address ToR 6, a review of the utilisation of LSDP Gaucher disease medicines, including the way they are stored and dispensed, and evidence of patient compliance to treatment, will need to be undertaken. Table 7.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 6 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions. Details on the individual data sources are provided in Appendix A.

Table 7.1: Research questions to address ToR 6

ToR 6 research questions	Data sources					
	Systematic literature review ^a	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data	LSDP pricing data	PBAC submissions	Stakeholder consultation
Utilisation						
1. How many patients (by treatment, by year and in total) have been treated under the LSDP? How does this compare with expectations at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP?	-	+	+	-	+	-
2. How many units (by treatment, by year and in total) have been dispensed under the LSDP? How does this compare with expectations at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP?	-	+	+	-	+	-
3. What is the expenditure (by treatment, by year and in total)? How does this compare with expectations at the time these medicines were included on the LSDP?	-	+	+	+	+	-
4. What is the rate of change in patient numbers, units, and expenditure year on year and overall? How does this compare with expectations at the time these medicines were first included on the LSDP?	-	+	+	+	+	-
5. Has there been utilisation beyond the eligibility criteria?	+	+	+	-	+	+
6. Does the utilisation data reflect the approved therapeutic relativity?	+	+	+	-	+	-
7. What quantity and value of LSDP medicine is wasted? Has this changed over time?	-	-	+	+	-	-

ToR 6 research questions	Data sources					
	Systematic literature review ^a	LSDP patient-level data	LSDP dispensing data	LSDP pricing data	PBAC submissions	Stakeholder consultation
Compliance						
8. What is the average duration (and distribution around duration) of treatment? How does this compare across these medicines?	-	+	+	-	-	+
9. What is the average dose (and distribution around average dose)? How does this compare to the approved* use and across medicines?	+	+	+	-	+	+
10. What is the average interval between doses (and distribution around this interval)? How does this compare to the approved use and across medicines?	+	+	+	-	-	+
11. Have patients had treatment breaks? If so, what proportion of patients and why? How does this compare across medicines?	+	+	+	-	-	+
12. Has there been switching between treatment? If so, why?	-	+	+	-	-	+
Drug storage						
13. Is there variation in storage and dispensing processes by drug custodians (e.g. pharmacies or administrators)?	+	-	+	-	-	+

Abbreviations: LSDP, Life Saving Drugs Program; PBAC, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

^a Includes Product Information, * Regulatory (such as TGA) and LSDP approved doses

As part of addressing the research questions above, the analysis will examine trends on compliance by age, gender, location etc for each question. The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

7.2 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE AND DOCUMENTATION REVIEW

A systematic literature review will be conducted to inform patient compliance with Gaucher disease medicines. Information sought will be on appropriate dosage schedules and usage outside of guidelines. Table 7.2 presents the search strategy. The relevant PubMed search string can be found in Appendix D (refer to Section D.6). Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B.

Table 7.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 6

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Search terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify publications on treatment compliance will guide the search. Details of the terms are provided in Section D.6 of Appendix D.
Databases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMBASE Medline Cochrane library
Other means to identify relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBAC PSDs Manual scan of reference lists of included articles Medicine Product Information (TGA) LSDP documents (Australian Government Department of Health)
Publication types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full text systematic reviews, literature reviews, clinical trial publications, and reimbursement application reports Available in English
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles published from 2009^a Conference abstracts published since 2017^b

Limit	Eligibility criteria
Study exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not relate to patients with Gaucher disease

Abbreviations: PBAC, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee; PSD, Public Summary Document

a Search will be restricted from 2009 as ToR previously not seen by LSDP

b Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

In addition to the systematic literature review, product information (PI) for both Gaucher disease medicines will be obtained from the TGA website. Dosage and administration information from the PI will be compared against the real-world use of medicines available in the LSDP dispensing data (refer to Section 7.4). This comparison will enable an analysis to be made of how compliant LSDP patients are to treatment to inform research questions 9 and 10 as well as identification of treatment breaks to inform research question 11. Information from the LSDP eligibility criteria for Gaucher disease will be used to address research question 5. Information regarding the therapeutic relativity between imiglucerase, taliglucerase, and velaglucerase will be obtained from clinical studies, PBAC submissions, and the LSDP guidelines for applications to address research question 6. Finally, information from the Presentation and Storage Conditions section of the PI will be used to describe the intended way the medication should be stored by medicine custodians and will inform research question 13.

7.3 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

The LSDP patient-level data and dispensing data will be linked by a unique identifier for each patient. This will allow the examination of any relationship between changes in clinical variables and dosing. LSDP patient-level data will be used to understand reasons for any change in the use of medications. Reasons which may be identified through the LSDP patient-level data may include disease progression, reduction in the clinical effectiveness of treatment, and adverse events. The level of substrates and clinical indicators of disease severity may be included in clinical notes. Any additional information included in clinical notes will be analysed to address research questions 1 to 6 and 8 to 12 concerning patient compliance, treatment switching, and utilisation (including beyond progression).

7.4 LSDP DISPENSING DATA

Two variables in the LSDP dispensing dataset will be used to inform the research questions in ToR 6:

- (1) The number of days between dispensing will be used to inform research question 10. A mean, standard deviation, median, and inter-quartile range will be calculated to provide detail on the variability of the interval between dosing across the entire LSDP.

To inform research question 11, the interval between dosing will be compared with the dosage regimen from the literature.

- (2) The dispensed amount will be calculated using the vial strength and the number of vials dispensed on each occasion. Summary statistics will be produced for the dispensed amount. This will be compared with the prescribed dose, as well as product information to assess whether the actual use of the medicine complies with the approved use. This will also allow identification of any medication wastage, a breakdown of annual wastage costs, and analysis of therapeutic relativity between the Gaucher medicines by examining relative usage levels. Identifying the amount of medicine patients receive, including whether patients are on treatment at all, will be used to address every research question within ToR 6.

7.5 LSDP PRICING DATA

The unit costs from the LSDP pricing data will be used to calculate the cost of LSDP medicines dispensed over the period of funding. This will be compared to the financial projections at the time of listing to address research

question 3 and the rate of change will be calculated to address research question 4. To calculate the amount of wastage and address research question 7, the total cost of the program will be compared with the amount which would be spent if exactly the correct quantities of the medicine could be dispensed. These wastage calculations will supplement the value for money calculations in ToR 5.

7.6 PBAC SUBMISSIONS

The estimated number of patients that will use the medicine, the unit costs, and the total cost of funding over five years will be extracted from the financial estimates in Section 4 of the relevant PBAC submissions. The number of patients and total cost of providing the medicine will be compared between the real-world costs (based on LSDP dispensing and pricing data) and the initial projections. It will be determined whether the difference between the two is due to a discrepancy in the total number of patients, the number of patients on each medicine, the number of units of the medicine dispensed, or the unit cost of the medicines. Other than for direct comparison to the projections at the time of funding, the PBAC submissions may also give insight into the process of deciding upon criteria such as eligibility and maximum dosing. This data will be used to address research questions 1 to 6, and 9.

7.7 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Stakeholders may be approached to fill any information gaps identified within the utilisation assessment. This consultation may occur by approaching specific stakeholders directly or through administration of an online survey. Again, the use of expert opinion to address the research questions in the review will follow the methods described in Appendix A of the PBAC guidelines. The content of these questions will focus on the reasons for the utilisation behaviour observed in the dispensing data and any issues with compliance.

7.8 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

To address the research questions related to utilisation (research questions 1 to 7), LSDP dispensing data and LSDP pricing data will be used to create a budget impact analysis calculating the number of patients on each LSDP medicine, the amount of medicine used in each year, the unit cost of each dose, and the total cost to the LSDP for each year. Actual costs using LSDP data will be compared to projected costs from the historical PBAC submissions. To address research question 5, LSDP patient-level data and dispensing data will be interrogated to identify patients whose disease has progressed to the point where ERT is no longer a suitable treatment. Stakeholder input will be sought if the LSDP datasets are not sufficient for this purpose. The criteria which define whether a patient is no longer suitable for ERT will be based on the exclusion criteria from the Gaucher disease guidelines.⁸ For research question 6 (does utilisation reflect the approved therapeutic relativity?), the utilisation identified to address the earlier research questions will be compared with the approved dosages from the LSDP guidelines.⁸ For research question 7 (wastage), real-world utilisation will be compared with the modelled situation where it is possible to dispense the exact required dosages.

Comparative analysis will also be conducted for each outcome specified in research questions 1 to 4. For example, the average dose will be compared between medications to assess whether compliance to treatment differs depending on the medication. If data is available the treatment setting (e.g. home, hospital etc) in which administration of the LSDP medicine occurs and/or postcode of the location where administration occurs and/or home postcode of patient will be analysed to assess if any of these variables have an impact on medicine utilisation and/or compliance.

To address the research questions related to compliance (research questions 8 to 12), LSDP dispensing data will be analysed to assess the duration of treatment, average dose, interval between dosing (including breaks from treatment), and treatment switch. This will be compared to the PIs in order to assess whether practice is

compliant with the approved use of the medicines. The systematic literature review will be used to inform the findings on patient compliance to treatment and supplemented by qualitative data gathered through the stakeholder consultation process. Analysis of the stakeholder input will be used to inform the reasons for any dosing deviations.

To address drug storage, stakeholder input will be sought to determine how LSDP medicines are stored at various points between reception at the pharmacy and administration. Thematic analysis of the stakeholder input will be compared with directions on storage and handling from the product information. This will inform research question 13 by determining whether users are handling the medicines appropriately.

7.9 LIMITATIONS

The most significant limitation in ToR 6 is the quality of the LSDP datasets. ToR 6 involves in depth analysis of the LSDP patient-level and dispensing datasets to identify information which addresses the research questions. Any gaps in the data will impact our ability to inform and/or validate the data against each of the research questions. For research question 5 (utilisation of medicines beyond the eligibility criteria) for example, it may not be possible to identify when disease progression has occurred from the LSDP patient level or dispensing data. It is also important to place suitable parameters to define treatment breaks in the analysis of patient compliance. Where analyses are unable to be conducted or if we are not confident in the validity of the results due to data quality issues, this will be noted and suggestions will be made regarding how to address these issues at the system-level in the future.

ToR 7: Developing technologies that may impact future access

This Chapter outlines the methodology that will be used to address ToR 7 “*Investigate developing technologies that may impact future funded access*”.

The purpose of ToR 7 is to identify what treatments and/or testing methodologies, if any, are emerging for Gaucher disease and what impact (if any) this could have on the administration of the program going forward.

8.1 OVERVIEW OF DATA SOURCES TO INFORM TOR 7

To address ToR 7, a horizon scan of developing technologies and innovations that may impact future access (i.e. within the next five years) to LSDP Gaucher disease medicines will be undertaken. For the purpose of the scan, technologies are defined as emerging treatments and testing methodologies. Table 8.1 presents the research questions to address ToR 7 and the data sources which will be used to answer each of the research questions.

Table 8.1: Research questions to address ToR 7

ToR 7 research questions	Data sources						
	Peer-reviewed literature databases	Early assessment and alert systems	HTA / research organisations	Regulatory agencies	News	Clinical trials registries	Other sources
1. What new treatments are emerging and how are they to be used?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
2. What new patient testing methodologies are being developed / adopted / promoted?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3. What is the potential impact of developing technologies on the LSDP?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Horizon scans are implemented to detect emerging healthcare technologies and innovations and inform stakeholders. Identified technologies and innovations undergo rapid assessment and are prioritised based on their potential impact for patients and the healthcare system. Consequently, these could impact on future access. Furthermore, identified technologies and innovations could have the ability to impact the administration of the LSDP. This could be due to the identification of extra patients, see more usage, thus, increasing government expenditure. Potentially significant technologies and innovations will be assessed in terms of their effectiveness, cost, safety, impact to the health system and ethical considerations.

The following sections explain how each of the identified data sources will be used to inform the analysis undertaken for each of the research questions.

8.2 PEER-REVIEWED LITERATURE

A search of the literature for new and emerging pharmaceuticals and testing methodologies relevant to Gaucher disease will be conducted using:

- (1) Peer-reviewed databases: Cochrane, PubMed, and Embase.com. The PubMed search terms are provided in Table 8.2. The databases will be searched using Boolean logic and the syntax unique to each database.
- (2) The selected sources given in Appendix E will also be reviewed for new medicines or molecules for rare diseases and conditions. Further detail on the systematic review methodology is provided in Appendix B.

Table 8.2: Literature search criteria for ToR 7

Parameter	Search terms and limits
Search terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms for Gaucher disease and an appropriate filter to identify clinical guidelines will guide the search. Details of the terms are provided in Section D.7 of Appendix D.
Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English and reputable trials not published in English AND humans
Search period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles published from 2012^a Conference abstracts published since 2017^b

^a Search will be restricted from 2012 to identify new and current treatment modalities

^b Conference abstracts/posters subject to a two-year restriction to allow for manuscript publication of current evidence

The sources shown in Table E-1 located in Appendix E (also summarised in Sections 8.3-8.8), will be searched using the same terms. However, searches will be varied using single terms, phrases, or combinations of these due to the search limitations that each source allows. A simpler approach is likely required for sources that use a search engine platform, although advanced searches will be used if the option is available. The horizon scan seeks to determine the impact of technologies and innovations that are likely to emerge within the next three to five years. Given the lag time in regulatory submissions between Europe, American and Australia, the horizon scan will search for papers from 2017 to account for this.

8.3 EARLY ASSESSMENT AND ALERT SYSTEMS

Three different sources that specialise in scanning for future treatments will be utilised as described in Appendix E. By using these sources, incoming technologies can be detected and analysed for their potential impact on future access and usage of Gaucher disease treatments. By using three different sources it is believed that information will likely be corroborated or further supported, allowing for better analysis. Additionally, by using multiple sources, exclusive findings and publications can also be detected.

8.4 HTA/INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS

Several different HTA agencies and research organisations will also be sourced to determine the impact of impending technologies on future access as described in Appendix E. Given the nature of these organisations, emerging technologies will have gone through an assessment with their impact assessed for a foreign healthcare system. However, the benefits of novel technologies are likely to be identified and communicated in their publications. These findings will also be used in assessing for the impact of developing technologies on future access of Gaucher disease treatments.

8.5 REGULATORY AGENCIES

Three main agencies (EMA, FDA and TGA) will also be reviewed. By researching these agencies, technologies that are likely to be commercially available in Australia within the next three to five years can also be identified.

From the reports obtained, information such as efficacy and safety data can also be presented to inform the impact of developing technologies on future access for Gaucher disease patients.

8.6 NEWS

News websites specialising in healthcare, pharmaceutical and testing technologies will be researched for any developing innovations as described in Appendix E. Furthermore, other commercially available products that could impact Gaucher disease patients but may not necessarily go through the traditional regulatory and HTA route can also be identified. The potential impact of new innovations on Gaucher disease patient numbers, usage of medications and government expenditure will also be analysed. Lastly, news websites can also be used to corroborate on findings from other data sources but also report on exclusive news.

8.7 CLINICAL TRIAL DATABASES

Four main clinical trial registries will be reviewed to identify developing technologies that could impact future access for Gaucher disease patients as described in Appendix E. These databases will be used to identify novel therapeutic agents that may be submitted to a regulatory agency as well as an HTA agency. Clinical trial databases will also identify developing technologies from Phase I to IV but also provide a synopsis on the type of technology used (e.g. chaperone/gene/substrate reduction therapy).

8.8 OTHER

Other resources, as described in Appendix E, will also be investigated not only to corroborate findings from the other five major sources but also identify any other missing pieces of information that could impact on the assessment of developing technologies on future access of Gaucher disease treatments.

Also, stakeholders consulted as part of the other ToR, will be asked whether they are aware of any new treatments and/or patient testing methodologies, and what impact if any, they believe they will have on the LSDP over the next five years.

8.9 SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

Identified developing health technologies will be presented according to their category (e.g. treatment or test). Categories of findings will be discussed, with detail provided for new technologies. Where possible, the likelihood of emergence of the new technology in the near future will be assessed. Particular types of new and emerging technologies will be reviewed briefly in which the following will be included:

- Introduction (Brief background)
- Intervention (What is the technology? How does it work?)
- Comparators (What other options are available?)
- Where will the intervention fit in the management algorithm for Gaucher disease?
- What are the characteristics of the population in whom it is being studied?
- Effectiveness (How well does the technology reach its outcomes?)
- Safety
- Cost impact
- Ethical cultural or religious considerations
- List of studies/references

In addition to these criteria, a summary sheet will be completed (Appendix E, Table E-2). The goal of the summary sheet is to provide a synopsis of the identified technology, in addition to its clinical and regulatory progress to date. The table will also address the other criteria listed above where possible.

By addressing these topics, the identified technology's impact on: a patient's life expectancy; quality of life; whether alternative treatments are available; and the Australian health system can be reviewed. Technologies to emerge within the next three years will be presented and discussed. Any medicines that are not expected to emerge within this time frame (e.g. medicines for which only animal studies are available) will not be reviewed.

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APPENDIX A: DESCRIPTION OF DATA SOURCES

A.1 LSDP PATIENT-LEVEL DATA

LSDP patient-level data is collected annually for all patients on the LSDP through the initial and annual reapplication for LSDP subsidised treatment for Gaucher disease (Type 1).

Through the LSDP, the Australian Government provides subsidised access for eligible patients to expensive lifesaving medicines. Treating physicians with relevant specialist registration who wish to apply for their patients to receive access to Australian Government subsidised treatment for Gaucher disease (Type 1) through the LSDP are required to complete criteria for general, initial and ongoing eligibility to access subsidised treatment.

The treating physician must submit the reapplication form to the LSDP by 1 May every year if they wish their patients to continue to receive subsidised treatment through the LSDP.

The reapplication form must demonstrate clinical improvement in the patient or stabilisation of the patient's condition, and evidence to support ongoing eligibility for the treatment of Gaucher disease (Type 1) must be provided.

The treating physician must declare that the patient continues to meet the eligibility criteria to receive subsidised treatment through the LSDP in accordance with the guidelines.

For Gaucher disease, a patient must:

- (1) satisfy the initial and ongoing eligibility criteria as detailed below;
- (2) participate in the evaluation of effectiveness of the drug by periodic assessment, as directed by these Guidelines, or have an acceptable reason not to participate;
- (3) not be suffering from any other medical condition, including complications or sequelae of Gaucher disease (Type 1), that might compromise the effectiveness of the drug treatment; and
- (4) be an Australian citizen or permanent Australian resident who qualifies for Medicare.⁸

LSDP patient-level data collected annually for patients on the LSDP receiving Gaucher disease (Type 1) treatment imiglucerase, velaglucerase, taliglucerase and miglustat is presented in Table A-1.

Table A-1: LSDP data collected annually from Gaucher disease (Type 1) patients

LSDP patient-level data
Demographics
Height (m)
Weight (kg)
Clinical
Haematological
Haemoglobin (2 measurements at least 1 month apart)
Platelets (2 measurements at least 1 month apart)
White cell count
Urea
Creatinine
Liver function tests
Chitotriosidase
Glucosyl sphingosine (if chitotriosidase null)
Other significant test results
Gastrointestinal
Spleen Volume

LSDP patient-level data
Palpable splenomegaly?
Liver Volume
Palpable hepatomegaly?
Compliance
Additional comments
Ophthalmologic
Ophthalmologic Review and Neurodevelopmental Status (Children Under 16 years old)
Skeletal
Date of skeletal MRI (CT with Contrast if MRI is inappropriate)
Skeletal MRI Score
Concomitant
Adjunctive Therapies
Other
Bone pain assessment (Yes/No/Any comments?)
Any change in symptoms? (please give details)
Quality of life score (SF-36, PCS, MCS)

Source: Australian Government. Department of Health. Accessed 2019. Saving Drugs Program (LSDP) guidelines for initial and annual reapplication for subsidised treatment for Gaucher disease (Type 1)

Abbreviations: CT, computed tomography; kg, kilogram; m, meters; MRI, Magnetic resonance imaging

A.2 LSDP DISPENSING DATA

LSDP dispensing data is collected continuously throughout the year for all patients on the LSDP receiving subsidised access to medications.

A pharmacist who is nominated by the treating physician to receive and dispense LSDP medications is designated as an 'Authorised Person' and has a range of responsibilities regarding the LSDP stock. These responsibilities include receiving the stock, confirming that it is in good condition, ensuring that the stock is handled in accordance with the TGA approved product information, checking the expiry date, and notifying the Department if the patient is enrolled in a clinical trial or has ceased treatment.

A major responsibility is that pharmacists are required to maintain a dispensing record for each patient. This record is based on a template provided by the Department and if a dispensing record is not provided when requested, the Department is unable to place an order for that particular patient. The Department audits these details approximately every three months to review patient compliance and determine future supply requirements.

The information included in these dispensing records for patients on the LSDP receiving Gaucher disease (Type 1) treatments imiglucerase, velaglucerase, or taliglucerase is presented in Table A-2.

Table A-2: LSDP dispensing data collected from Gaucher disease (Type 1) patients

LSDP Dispensing Data
Identifying information
Patient identifier (e.g. X01)
Date of birth
Age
Month on the program
Year on the program
Dispensing information
Date of dispensing
Date of infusion
Number of days between dispensing
Prescribed dose
Dispensed amount (5mg vial)
Dispensed amount (35mg vial)

LSDP Dispensing Data
Dispensed amount (mg)
Amount discarded (mg)
Cost of discarded amount
Dispensing pharmacy
Comments

Source: Australian Government Department of Health. Accessed 2019. Life Saving Drugs Program (LSDP) Gaucher dispensing records.

A.3 LSDP PRICING DATA

The LSDP pricing data includes details on the arrangement between the Department and the pharmaceutical companies that own the medications for Gaucher disease. The data collected regarding the pricing of LSDP medications is presented in Table A-3.

Table A-3: LSDP pricing data for Gaucher disease (Type 1) medications

LSDP Pricing Data
General information
Medicine (i.e. imiglucerase, velaglucerase, taliglucerase)
Date of funding
Sponsor
Deed expiry date
Number of patients
Average patient age
Average dose
Number of new applications in 2017-2018
Number of doctors
Pricing
Price per vial (GST ex)
Price per vial after 1 April 2019
Annual average cost per patient for 2017-2018

Source: Australian Government Department of Health Life. Accessed 2019. Life Saving Drugs Program (LSDP) Attachment A (1) Brief overview of Gaucher disease treated through the LSDP

A.4 PBAC SUBMISSIONS

All medicines on the LSDP have undergone assessment by the PBAC, but been rejected because of failure to meet the required cost-effectiveness criteria. These submissions will include both clinical effectiveness and safety clinical evaluation. The economic information, includes:

- type of economic evaluation
- comparator
- estimated number of patients with the disease
- estimated number of patients that will take the medicine

A.5 SPECIALIST LABORATORY DATA

Diagnosis of Gaucher disease is done by measuring beta-glucosylceramidase enzyme activity in the blood or by genetic testing for biallelic variants of the *GBA* gene. Gaucher patient samples are delivered and processed at two national diagnostic labs:

- (1) National Referral Laboratory, Department of Biochemical Genetics, Women's and Children's Hospital, SA
- (2) Central Pathology Laboratory, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, QLD

HealthConsult will be consulting with these two sites to retrieve de-identified diagnostic laboratory datasets that may be used to inform questions raised in the Review.

A.6 RARE DISEASE REGISTRIES

Rare disease registries are typically run by international pharmaceutical companies, such as Sanofi Genzyme, or Shire. These registries hold observational data for monitoring and evaluating patient outcomes in response to treatment specific to their condition. HealthConsult will be seeking access to Australian data held within de-identified patient registry databases to collect and analyse any information that may be relevant to the Review.

The databases of particular interest for the current Review include:

- International Collaborative Gaucher Group (ICGG) Gaucher Registry. <https://www.registrynxt.com>
- Gaucher Disease Outcome Survey (GOS).
<https://www.shiretrials.com/en/studies/clinicaltrials/en/2017/09/22/09/42/gos>

A.7 CLINICAL ADVISORY GROUP

The Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) will be contacted by HealthConsult as required to provide expert advice and opinions on the LSDP reviews. This is likely to be required outside the requirement for data source: stakeholder consultations. However, CAG representatives will also likely be consulted for input into the reviews for the ToR including stakeholder consultations as CAG members are clinician experts in rare diseases.

A.8 GAUCHER ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

The Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand is a non-profit association with the mission to 'Improve the health and wellbeing of Australian and New Zealander Gaucher patients through community building, education, advocacy, and support of research.

Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand input will be sought where data source "Stakeholder Consultation" is included under a ToR.

Appendix B: SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW METHODOLOGY

B.1 SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE SEARCH

A systematic literature review is a rigorous and highly methodical appraisal and synthesis of research articles.¹⁴ HealthConsult will conduct systematic reviews in three steps:

- (1) **Identification of relevant evidence** – The identification of evidence relevant to all ToR will rely on a systematic literature review. The search strategies will encompass both the peer reviewed literature and any additional evidence (such as, published international registry data and public summary documents or unpublished PBAC pivotal trial data) provided by key stakeholders.

The Medline, EMBASE and Cochrane Library databases will be searched for eligible peer-reviewed articles. These will include clinical studies that consider the medicines Imiglucerase (Cerezyme), Velaglucerase (VPRIV) and Taliglucerase (Elelyso) and for the treatment of Gaucher disease (Type 1) without neurological complications. Restrictions will be placed on the time period searched, from 2009 for ToR 1 (prevalence) and ToR 6 (utilisation) and 2014 (ToR 2 and ToR 3) and 2012 for remaining ToR. Unrestricted (or 1999) to capture evidence at time of listing and/or capture evidence that has not previously been included/considered by the LSDP. The reference lists of relevant papers will also be scanned for other studies potentially missed in the database searches.

All eligible articles will be downloaded into EndNote (X 9). Two reviewers from the evidence review team will independently screen titles and abstracts (where available) for all citations retrieved by the literature search. All citations listed for inclusion for full text review will be independently assessed by the two independent reviewers. Any disagreements will be resolved by a third reviewer to reach consensus.

The 'a priori' inclusion criteria will be determined from the PICO criteria that form the basis of the research question. Studies reporting at least one primary outcome will be eligible for inclusion if they satisfied the correct population, intervention and comparator criteria. Outcomes of interest to be reported are relevant life extension, primary efficacy and safety outcomes (e.g. creatine, liver function test, spleen volume, liver volume, skeletal and pain outcomes). Exclusion criteria include literature identified as opinion pieces, editorials or other papers without a clear study design or description of methods or results or low powered statistical results. It also includes literature included in the 2015 LSDP review report.

Eligibility criteria will be applied to the titles and abstracts of included citations; full articles will be retrieved for further assessment where the citation appears to meet the eligibility criteria. The same criteria will be applied to the full articles. Full articles that initially met the eligibility criteria but which were later excluded will be documented, with reasons for exclusion reported. Study eligibility will be assessed by two reviewers from the evidence review team who will screen titles and abstracts (where available) for all citations retrieved by the literature search. All citations listed for inclusion for full text review will be assessed by the same independent reviewers. Any disagreements will be resolved by a third reviewer.

Studies will be assessed for eligibility for inclusion in the systematic review using a staged approach; that is, the highest level of evidence available to answer the individual research questions will be included in the systematic review. The level of evidence will be determined by the NHMRC Evidence Hierarchy for interventional evidence, as described in Appendix C.2. The use of a staged approach targets the research most likely to provide unbiased evidence as a consequence of how the research was designed. However, other factors, such as study quality, size of the treatment effect, generalisability and applicability of the evidence, will also be considered when assessing the reliability of study findings.

The flow of information through the different phases of the systematic literature review will be presented in a Preferred Reporting of Items in Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses (PRISMA) flow diagram.¹⁴

Studies that initially met inclusion criteria but were later excluded will be documented, with reasons for their exclusion.

- (2) **Critical Appraisal of selected evidence** – Studies will be critically appraised according to the likelihood that bias had affected their findings. Study design flaws will be appraised using NHMRC levels of evidence (Appendix B.2).¹⁵ Systematic reviews will be critically appraised using the AMSTAR 2 (Assessing the Methodological Quality of Systematic Reviews) checklist (Appendix C).¹⁶ The execution of RCTs and observational studies will be evaluated using quality appraisal checklists from Cochrane Risk of Bias for RCTs and ROBINS – 1 (Risk Of Bias In Non-randomised Studies - of Interventions) (see Appendix B.3). Case reports will not be assessed due to their likelihood of bias.

The quality of the body of evidence reported on individual health outcomes will be rated according to the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) system.¹⁷ The GRADE system classifies the overall quality/level of the body of evidence for each outcome into one of four scores:¹⁸

- (1) **High:** we are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect.
- (2) **Moderate:** we are moderately confident in the effect estimate: the true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different.
- (3) **Low:** our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: the true effect maybe substantially different from the estimate of the effect.
- (4) **Very low:** we have very little confidence in the effect estimate: the true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of the effect.

Systematic reviews are considered to provide the strongest evidence if they summarise one or more well-designed and well-executed RCTs and yield consistent and directly applicable results. In the GRADE methodology, systematic reviews and RCTs both start as high-quality evidence. However, review authors can downgrade RCTs to moderate, low, or even very low quality evidence, depending on the presence of one or more of the following factors: limitations in the design and implementation of available studies suggesting high likelihood of bias; unexplained heterogeneity or inconsistency of results (including problems with subgroup analyses); indirectness of evidence (indirect population, intervention, control, outcomes); imprecision of results (wide confidence intervals); and high probability of publication bias.

The moderate strength category is populated by RCTs with important limitations; observational studies are generally graded as low-quality evidence. If, however, these studies yield large effects and there is no obvious bias explaining those effects, reviewers may rate the evidence as moderate or – if the effect is large enough – even high quality.

- (3) **Data extraction** – Relevant data will be extracted from included studies, including study design characteristics, country/setting, main population characteristics (including baseline characteristics or disease severity, if available), intervention drug and dosage details, comparator drug and dosage details, level of evidence, risk of bias, relevant outcome measures and results, and follow-up period. All data extraction will be cross-checked by a second reviewer.

Where appropriate, data extracted from the included studies will be combined in a meta-analysis, using Review Manager software from the Cochrane Collaboration. For each research question, the findings will be synthesised into an overall narrative, with better quality studies given greater weight in the formulation of conclusions. Where there is incomplete reporting of information in published systematic reviews, data will be verified using the original papers. The synthesis of the evidence will be informed by the GRADE method.¹⁷

B.2 LEVELS OF EVIDENCE

When identifying clinical evidence, a stepped process will generally be used in which the highest-level evidence will be assessed for inclusion before lower levels of evidence will be considered. If there is sufficient Level I evidence to address the ToR (and research questions), assessment of Level II, III and IV evidence will not be undertaken. If no relevant Level I evidence is available for a particular research question, Level II evidence will be assessed. If no relevant Level II evidence is available these steps will be repeated for lower levels of evidence. Table B-1 describes the NHMRC Levels of Evidence for intervention questions.

Table B-1: NHMRC evidence hierarchy for intervention questions

Level	Study type	Notes
I	A systematic review of level II studies	A systematic review will only be assigned a level of evidence as high as the studies it contains
II	A randomised controlled trial	-
III-1	A pseudo-randomised controlled trial	-
III-2	A comparative study with concurrent controls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-randomised experimental trial Cohort study Case-control study Interrupted time series with a control group 	Non-randomised experimental trial also includes controlled before-and-after (pre-test/post-test) studies, as well as indirect comparisons (i.e. utilise A v B and B v C to determine A v C)
III-3	A comparative study without concurrent controls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical control study Two or more single arm study Interrupted time series without a parallel control group 	A comparison of single arm studies could involve case series from two studies. This would also include unadjusted indirect comparisons (utilise A v B and B v C to determine A v C, but where there is no statistical adjusted for B)
IV	Case series with either post-test or pre-test/post-test outcomes	-

Source: National Health and Medical Research Council. NHMRC levels of evidence and grades for recommendations for developers of guidelines. Canberra: National Health and Medical Research Council, 2009.

B.3 QUALITY ASSESSMENT

B.3.1 Clinical treatment guidelines

Clinical treatment guidelines will be assessed using the AGREE II (Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation II) checklist¹⁹ consisting of 23 items (See Table B-2). AGREE II allows for appraisers to make two final assessments of their overall judgement of the methodological quality of practice guidelines. This is made in consideration of how they rated the 23 items. Two appraisers will be used when evaluating the quality of outcomes.

The AGREE II guidelines are divided into six major quality domains:

- (1) Scope and purpose;
- (2) Stakeholder involvement;
- (3) Rigour of development;
- (4) Clarity of presentation;
- (5) Applicability; and
- (6) Editorial independence.

AGREE II items are rated out of 7, with a score of 1 being “Strongly Disagree,” and a score of 7 being “Strongly Agree.” A score between 2 and 6 is given when the AGREE II item does not fully meet the criteria or considerations. Scores are assigned based on completeness of data.

Table B-2: Quality assessment checklist for clinical guidelines

CHECKLIST ITEM AND DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CRITERIA	PAGE #
DOMAIN 1: SCOPE AND PURPOSE		
1. OBJECTIVES Report the overall objective(s) of the guideline. The expected health benefits from the guideline are to be specific to the clinical problem or health topic.	<input type="checkbox"/> Health intent(s) (i.e., prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Expected benefit(s) or outcome(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Target(s) (e.g., patient population, society)	
2. QUESTIONS Report the health question(s) covered by the guideline, particularly for the key recommendations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Target population <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention(s) or exposure(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Comparisons (if appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Health care setting or context	
3. POPULATION Describe the population (i.e., patients, public, etc.) to whom the guideline is meant to apply.	<input type="checkbox"/> Target population, sex and age <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical condition (if relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> Severity/stage of disease (if relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> Comorbidities (if relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> Excluded populations (if relevant)	
DOMAIN 2: STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT		
4. GROUP MEMBERSHIP Report all individuals who were involved in the development process. This may include members of the steering group, the research team involved in selecting and reviewing/rating the evidence and individuals involved in formulating the final recommendations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of participant <input type="checkbox"/> Discipline/content expertise (e.g., neurosurgeon, methodologist) <input type="checkbox"/> Institution (e.g., St. Peter's hospital) <input type="checkbox"/> Geographical location (e.g., Seattle, WA) <input type="checkbox"/> A description of the member's role in the guideline development group	
5. TARGET POPULATION PREFERENCES AND VIEWS Report how the views and preferences of the target population were sought/considered and what the resulting outcomes were.	<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of type of strategy used to capture patients'/publics' views and preferences (e.g., participation in the guideline development group, literature review of values and preferences) <input type="checkbox"/> Methods by which preferences and views were sought (e.g., evidence from literature, surveys, focus groups) <input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes/information gathered on patient/public information <input type="checkbox"/> How the information gathered was used to inform the guideline development process and/or formation of the recommendations	
6. TARGET USERS Report the target (or intended) users of the guideline.	<input type="checkbox"/> The intended guideline audience (e.g. specialists, family physicians, patients, clinical or institutional leaders/administrators) <input type="checkbox"/> How the guideline may be used by its target audience (e.g., to inform clinical decisions, to inform policy, to inform standards of care)	
DOMAIN 3: RIGOUR OF DEVELOPMENT		
7. SEARCH METHODS Report details of the strategy used to search for evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/> Named electronic database(s) or evidence source(s) where the search was performed (e.g., MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsychINFO, CINAHL) <input type="checkbox"/> Time periods searched (e.g., January 1, 2004 to March 31, 2008) <input type="checkbox"/> Search terms used (e.g., text words, indexing terms, subheadings) <input type="checkbox"/> Full search strategy included (e.g., possibly located in appendix)	

CHECKLIST ITEM AND DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CRITERIA	PAGE #
8. EVIDENCE SELECTION CRITERIA Report the criteria used to select (i.e., include and exclude) the evidence. Provide rationale, where appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Target population (patient, public, etc.) characteristics <input type="checkbox"/> Study design <input type="checkbox"/> Comparisons (if relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes <input type="checkbox"/> Language (if relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> Context (if relevant)	
9. STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS OF THE EVIDENCE Describe the strengths and limitations of the evidence. Consider from the perspective of the individual studies and the body of evidence aggregated across all the studies. Tools exist that can facilitate the reporting of this concept.	<input type="checkbox"/> Study design(s) included in body of evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Study methodology limitations (sampling, blinding, allocation concealment, analytical methods) <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriateness/relevance of primary and secondary outcomes considered <input type="checkbox"/> Consistency of results across studies <input type="checkbox"/> Direction of results across studies <input type="checkbox"/> Magnitude of benefit versus magnitude of harm <input type="checkbox"/> Applicability to practice context	
10. FORMULATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS Describe the methods used to formulate the recommendations and how final decisions were reached. Specify any areas of disagreement and the methods used to resolve them.	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation development process (e.g., steps used in modified Delphi technique, voting procedures that were considered) <input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes of the recommendation development process (e.g., extent to which consensus was reached using modified Delphi technique, outcome of voting procedures) <input type="checkbox"/> How the process influenced the recommendations (e.g., results of Delphi technique influence final recommendation, alignment with recommendations and the final vote)	
11. CONSIDERATION OF BENEFITS AND HARMS Report the health benefits, side effects, and risks that were considered when formulating the recommendations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting data and report of benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting data and report of harms/side effects/risks <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting of the balance/trade-off between benefits and harms/side effects/risks <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendations reflect considerations of both benefits and harms/side effects/risks	
12. LINK BETWEEN RECOMMENDATIONS AND EVIDENCE Describe the explicit link between the recommendations and the evidence on which they are based.	<input type="checkbox"/> How the guideline development group linked and used the evidence to inform recommendations <input type="checkbox"/> Link between each recommendation and key evidence (text description and/or reference list) <input type="checkbox"/> Link between recommendations and evidence summaries and/or evidence tables in the results section of the guideline	
13. EXTERNAL REVIEW Report the methodology used to conduct the external review.	<input type="checkbox"/> Purpose and intent of the external review (e.g., to improve quality, gather feedback on draft recommendations, assess applicability and feasibility, disseminate evidence) <input type="checkbox"/> Methods taken to undertake the external review (e.g., rating scale, open-ended questions) <input type="checkbox"/> Description of the external reviewers (e.g., number, type of reviewers, affiliations) <input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes/information gathered from the external review (e.g., summary of key findings) <input type="checkbox"/> How the information gathered was used to inform the guideline development process and/or formation of the recommendations (e.g., guideline panel considered results of review in forming final recommendations)	
14. UPDATING PROCEDURE Describe the procedure for updating the guideline.	<input type="checkbox"/> A statement that the guideline will be updated <input type="checkbox"/> Explicit time interval or explicit criteria to guide decisions about when an update will occur <input type="checkbox"/> Methodology for the updating procedure	
DOMAIN 4: CLARITY OF PRESENTATION		

CHECKLIST ITEM AND DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CRITERIA	PAGE #
15. SPECIFIC AND UNAMBIGUOUS RECOMMENDATIONS Describe which options are appropriate in which situations and in which population groups, as informed by the body of evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/> A statement of the recommended action <input type="checkbox"/> Intent or purpose of the recommended action (e.g., to improve quality of life, to decrease side effects) <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant population (e.g., patients, public) <input type="checkbox"/> Caveats or qualifying statements, if relevant (e.g., patients or conditions for whom the recommendations would not apply) <input type="checkbox"/> If there is uncertainty about the best care option(s), the uncertainty should be stated in the guideline	
16. MANAGEMENT OPTIONS Describe the different options for managing the condition or health issue.	<input type="checkbox"/> Description of management options <input type="checkbox"/> Population or clinical situation most appropriate to each option	
17. IDENTIFIABLE KEY RECOMMENDATIONS Present the key recommendations so that they are easy to identify.	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommendations in a summarized box, typed in bold, underlined, or presented as flow charts or algorithms <input type="checkbox"/> Specific recommendations grouped together in one section	
DOMAIN 5: APPLICABILITY		
18. FACILITATORS AND BARRIERS TO APPLICATION <i>Describe the facilitators and barriers to the guideline's application.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Types of facilitators and barriers that were considered <input type="checkbox"/> Methods by which information regarding the facilitators and barriers to implementing recommendations were sought (e.g., feedback from key stakeholders, pilot testing of guidelines before widespread implementation) <input type="checkbox"/> Information/description of the types of facilitators and barriers that emerged from the inquiry (e.g., practitioners have the skills to deliver the recommended care, sufficient equipment is not available to ensure all eligible members of the population receive mammography) <input type="checkbox"/> How the information influenced the guideline development process and/or formation of the recommendations	
19. IMPLEMENTATION ADVICE/TOOLS <i>Provide advice and/or tools on how the recommendations can be applied in practice.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional materials to support the implementation of the guideline in practice. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Guideline summary documents ○ Links to check lists, algorithms ○ Links to how-to manuals ○ Solutions linked to barrier analysis (see Item 18) ○ Tools to capitalize on guideline facilitators (see Item 18) ○ Outcome of pilot test and lessons learned 	
20. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS <i>Describe any potential resource implications of applying the recommendations.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Types of cost information that were considered (e.g., economic evaluations, drug acquisition costs) <input type="checkbox"/> Methods by which the cost information was sought (e.g., a health economist was part of the guideline development panel, use of health technology assessments for specific drugs, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Information/description of the cost information that emerged from the inquiry (e.g., specific drug acquisition costs per treatment course) <input type="checkbox"/> How the information gathered was used to inform the guideline development process and/or formation of the recommendations	
21. MONITORING/ AUDITING CRITERIA <i>Provide monitoring and/or auditing criteria to measure the application of guideline recommendations.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Criteria to assess guideline implementation or adherence to recommendations <input type="checkbox"/> Criteria for assessing impact of implementing the recommendations <input type="checkbox"/> Advice on the frequency and interval of measurement <input type="checkbox"/> Operational definitions of how the criteria should be measured	

CHECKLIST ITEM AND DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CRITERIA	PAGE #
DOMAIN 6: EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE		
22. FUNDING BODY Report the funding body's influence on the content of the guideline.	<input type="checkbox"/> The name of the funding body or source of funding (or explicit statement of no funding) <input type="checkbox"/> A statement that the funding body did not influence the content of the guideline	
23. COMPETING INTERESTS Provide an explicit statement that all group members have declared whether they have any competing interests.	<input type="checkbox"/> Types of competing interests considered <input type="checkbox"/> Methods by which potential competing interests were sought <input type="checkbox"/> A description of the competing interests <input type="checkbox"/> How the competing interests influenced the guideline process and development of recommendations	

Source: Brouwers MC, Kho ME, Browman GP, Burgers JS, Cluzeau F, Feder G, Fervers B, Graham ID, Grimshaw J, Hanna SE, Littlejohns P, Makarski J, Zitzelsberger L, for the AGREE Next Steps Consortium. AGREE II: Advancing guideline development, reporting and evaluation in healthcare. CMAJ 2010;182:E839-842.

B.3.2 Systematic Reviews

Systematic reviews will be assessed using the AMSTAR 2 (Assessing the Methodological Quality of Systematic Reviews) checklist,¹⁶ which has 16 questions (see Table B-3). AMSTAR 2 enables appraisal of systematic reviews of randomised and non-randomised studies of healthcare interventions. AMSTAR 2 is not intended to generate an overall score. The overall rating is based on weaknesses in critical domains. The possible ratings of overall confidence in the results of the review are:

- **High** - Zero or one non-critical weakness: The systematic review provides an accurate and comprehensive summary of the results of the available studies that address the question of interest
- **Moderate** - More than one non-critical weakness*: The systematic review has more than one weakness, but no critical flaws. It may provide an accurate summary of the results of the available studies that were included in the review.
- **Low** - One critical flaw with or without non-critical weaknesses: The review has a critical flaw and may not provide an accurate and comprehensive summary of the available studies that address the question(s) of interest.
- **Critically low** - More than one critical flaw with or without non-critical weaknesses: The review has more than one critical flaw and should not be relied on to provide an accurate and comprehensive summary of the available studies.

*Note: Multiple non-critical weaknesses may diminish confidence in the review and it may be appropriate to move the overall appraisal down from moderate to low confidence.

Table B-3 presents the AMSTAR 2 tool, a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions.

Table B-3: Quality assessment checklist for systematic reviews

AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both		
1. Did the research question and inclusion criteria for the review include the components of PICO?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Population <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Comparator group <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome	Optional (recommended) <input type="checkbox"/> Timeframe for follow-up	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Did the report of the review contain an explicit statement that the review methods were established prior to the conduct of the review and did the report justify any significant deviations from the protocol?		

AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both		
<p>For Partial Yes: The authors state that they had a written protocol or guide that included ALL the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> review question(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a search strategy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> inclusion/exclusion criteria</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a risk of bias assessment</p>	<p>For Yes: As for partial yes, plus the protocol should be registered and should also have specified:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a meta-analysis/synthesis plan, if appropriate, <i>and</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a plan for investigating causes of heterogeneity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> justification for any deviations from the protocol</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
3. Did the review authors explain their selection of the study designs for inclusion in the review?		
<p>For Yes, the review should satisfy ONE of the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Explanation for including only RCTs</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OR <i>Explanation for including only NRSI</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OR <i>Explanation for including both RCTs and NRSI</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
4. Did the review authors use a comprehensive literature search strategy?		
<p>For Partial Yes (all the following):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> searched at least 2 databases (relevant to research question)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> provided key word and/or search strategy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> justified publication restrictions (e.g. language)</p>	<p>For Yes, should also have (all the following):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> searched the reference lists/bibliographies of included studies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> searched trial/study registries</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> included/consulted content experts in the field</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> where relevant, searched for grey literature</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> conducted search within 24 months of completion of the review</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
5. Did the review authors perform study selection in duplicate?		
<p>For Yes, either ONE of the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> at least two reviewers independently agreed on selection of eligible studies and achieved consensus on which studies to include</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OR two reviewers selected a sample of eligible studies <u>and</u> achieved good agreement (at least 80 percent), with the remainder selected by one reviewer</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
6. Did the review authors perform data extraction in duplicate?		
<p>For Yes, either ONE of the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> at least two reviewers achieved consensus on which data to extract from included studies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OR two reviewers extracted data from a sample of eligible studies <u>and</u> achieved good agreement (at least 80 percent), with the remainder extracted by one reviewer</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
7. Did the review authors provide a list of excluded studies and justify the exclusions?		

AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both		
For Partial Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> provided a list of all potentially relevant studies that were read in full-text form but excluded from the review	For Yes, must also have: <input type="checkbox"/> justified the exclusion from the review of each potentially relevant study	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Did the review authors describe the included studies in adequate detail?		
For Partial Yes (ALL the following): <input type="checkbox"/> described population <input type="checkbox"/> described interventions <input type="checkbox"/> described comparators <input type="checkbox"/> described outcomes <input type="checkbox"/> described research designs	For Yes, should also have ALL the following: <input type="checkbox"/> described population in detail <input type="checkbox"/> described interventions in detail (including doses where relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> described comparators in detail (including doses where relevant) <input type="checkbox"/> described study's setting <input type="checkbox"/> timeframe for follow-up	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9. Did the review authors use a satisfactory technique for assessing the risk of bias (RoB) in individual studies that were included in the review?		
RCTs For Partial Yes, must have assessed RoB from: <input type="checkbox"/> unconcealed allocation, <i>and</i> <input type="checkbox"/> lack of blinding of patients and assessors when assessing outcomes (unnecessary for objective outcomes such as all-cause mortality)	For Yes, must also have assessed RoB from: <input type="checkbox"/> allocation sequence that was not truly random, <i>and</i> <input type="checkbox"/> selection of the reported result from among multiple measurements or analyses of a specified outcome	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Includes only NRSI
NRSI For Partial Yes, must have assessed RoB: <input type="checkbox"/> from confounding, <i>and</i> <input type="checkbox"/> from selection bias	For Yes, must also have assessed RoB: <input type="checkbox"/> methods used to ascertain exposures and outcomes, <i>and</i> <input type="checkbox"/> selection of the reported result from among multiple measurements or analyses of a specified outcome	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Includes only RCTs
10. Did the review authors report on the sources of funding for the studies included in the review?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> must have reported on the sources of funding for individual studies included in the review. Note: reporting that the reviewers looked for this information but it was not reported by study authors also qualifies		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11. If meta-analysis was performed did the review authors use appropriate methods for statistical combination of results?		
RCTs For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> the authors justified combining the data in a meta-analysis <input type="checkbox"/> AND they used an appropriate weighted technique to combine study results and adjusted for heterogeneity if present <input type="checkbox"/> AND investigated the causes of any heterogeneity		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No meta-analysis conducted

AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both		
For NRSI For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> the authors justified combining the data in a meta-analysis <input type="checkbox"/> AND they used an appropriate weighted technique to combine study results, adjusting for heterogeneity if present <input type="checkbox"/> AND they statistically combined effect estimates from NRSI that were adjusted for confounding, rather than combining raw data, or justified combining raw data when adjusted effect estimates were not available <input type="checkbox"/> AND they reported separate summary estimates for RCTs and NRSI separately when both were included in the review		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No meta-analysis conducted
12. If meta-analysis was performed, did the review authors assess the potential impact of RoB in individual studies on the results of the meta-analysis or other evidence synthesis?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> included only low risk of bias RCTs <input type="checkbox"/> OR, if the pooled estimate was based on RCTs and/or NRSI at variable RoB, the authors performed analyses to investigate possible impact of RoB on summary estimates of effect		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No meta-analysis conducted
13. Did the review authors account for RoB in individual studies when interpreting/discussing the results of the review?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> included only low risk of bias RCTs <input type="checkbox"/> OR, if RCTs with moderate or high RoB, or NRSI were included the review provided a discussion of the likely impact of RoB on the results		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
14. Did the review authors provide a satisfactory explanation for, and discussion of, any heterogeneity observed in the results of the review?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> There was no significant heterogeneity in the results <input type="checkbox"/> OR if heterogeneity was present, the authors performed an investigation of sources of any heterogeneity in the results and discussed the impact of this on the results of the review		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
15. If they performed quantitative synthesis did the review authors carry out an adequate investigation of publication bias (small study bias) and discuss its likely impact on the results of the review?		
For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> performed graphical or statistical tests for publication bias and discussed the likelihood and magnitude of impact of publication bias		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No meta-analysis conducted
16. Did the review authors report any potential sources of conflict of interest, including any funding they received for conducting the review?		

AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or nonrandomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both

For Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> The authors reported no competing interests OR <input type="checkbox"/> The authors described their funding sources and how they managed potential conflicts of interest		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Source: Shea BJ, Reeves BC, Wells G, Thuku M, Hamel C, Moran J, Moher D, Tugwell P, Welch V, Kristjansson E, Henry DA. AMSTAR 2: a critical appraisal tool for systematic reviews that include randomised or non-randomised studies of healthcare interventions, or both. *BMJ*. 2017 Sep 21;358:j4008.

B.3.3 Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs)

Quality appraisal checklists from the Revised Cochrane risk-of-bias tool for randomised trials (RoB 2)²⁰ will be used to assess the quality of RCTs (Table B-4). The RoB 2 tool provides a framework for considering the risk of bias in the findings of any type of randomized trial. The assessment is specific to a single trial result that is an estimate of the relative effect of two interventions or intervention strategies on a particular outcome. We refer to the interventions as the experimental intervention and the comparator intervention, although we recognise that the result may sometimes refer to a comparison of two active interventions.

The RoB 2 tool is structured into five domains through which bias might be introduced into the result. These are:

- (1) bias arising from the randomisation process;
- (2) bias due to deviations from intended interventions;
- (3) bias due to missing outcome data;
- (4) bias in measurement of the outcome;
- (5) bias in selection of the reported result.

The domain names are direct descriptions of the causes of bias addressed in the domain.

Table B-4: Quality assessment checklist for randomised controlled trials (Cochrane RoB 2)

Domain 1: Risk of bias arising from the randomization process		
Signalling Questions	Description	Response options
1.1 Was the allocation sequence random?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
1.2 Was the allocation sequence concealed until participants were enrolled and assigned to interventions?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
1.3 Did baseline differences between intervention groups suggest a problem with the randomization process?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias arising from the randomization process?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Domain 2: Risk of bias due to deviations from the intended interventions (effect of assignment to intervention)		
Signalling questions	Description	Response options
2.1. Were participants aware of their assigned intervention during the trial?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.2. Were carers and people delivering the interventions aware of participants' assigned intervention during the trial?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.3. If <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>NI</u> to 2.1 or 2.2: Were there deviations from the intended intervention that arose because of the experimental context?		NA / <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.4. If <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> to 2.3: Were these deviations from intended intervention balanced between groups?		NA / <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.5 If <u>N</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>NI</u> to 2.4: Were these deviations likely to have affected the outcome?		NA / <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.6 Was an appropriate analysis used to estimate the effect of assignment to intervention?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.7 If <u>N</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>NI</u> to 2.6: Was there potential for a substantial impact (on the result) of the failure to analyse participants in the group to which they were randomized?		NA / <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to deviations from intended interventions?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Domain 2: Risk of bias due to deviations from the intended interventions (effect of adhering to intervention)		
Signalling questions	Description	Response options
2.1. Were participants aware of their assigned intervention during the trial?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.2. Were carers and people delivering the interventions aware of participants' assigned intervention during the trial?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.3. If <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>NI</u> to 2.1 or 2.2: Were important co-interventions balanced across intervention groups?		NA / <u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.4. Could failures in implementing the intervention have affected the outcome?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
2.5. Did study participants adhere to the assigned intervention regimen?		<u>Y</u> / <u>PY</u> / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI

Table B-4: Quality assessment checklist for randomised controlled trials (Cochrane RoB 2)

2.6. If N/PN/NI to 2.3 or 2.5 or Y/PY/NI to 2.4: Was an appropriate analysis used to estimate the effect of adhering to the intervention?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to deviations from intended interventions?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Domain 3: Missing outcome data		
Signalling questions	Description	Response options
3.1 Were data for this outcome available for all, or nearly all, participants randomized?		<u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
3.2 If N/PN/NI to 3.1: Is there evidence that result was not biased by missing outcome data?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u>
3.3 If N/PN to 3.2: Could missingness in the outcome depend on its true value?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
3.4 If Y/PY/NI to 3.3: Do the proportions of missing outcome data differ between intervention groups?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
3.5 If Y/PY/NI to 3.3: Is it likely that missingness in the outcome depended on its true value?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to missing outcome data?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Domain 4: Risk of bias in measurement of the outcome		
Signalling questions	Description	Response options
4.1 Was the method of measuring the outcome inappropriate?		<u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
4.2 Could measurement or ascertainment of the outcome have differed between intervention groups?		<u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
4.3 If N/PN/NI to 4.1 and 4.2: Were outcome assessors aware of the intervention received by study participants?		<u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
4.4 If Y/PY/NI to 4.3: Could assessment of the outcome have been influenced by knowledge of intervention received?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
4.5 If Y/PY/NI to 4.4: Is it likely that assessment of the outcome was influenced by knowledge of intervention received?		NA / <u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias in measurement of the outcome?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Domain 5: Risk of bias in selection of the reported result		
Signalling questions	Description	Response options
5.1 Was the trial analysed in accordance with a pre-specified plan that was finalized before unblinded outcome data were available for analysis?		<u>Y / PY</u> / <u>PN / N</u> / NI

Table B-4: Quality assessment checklist for randomised controlled trials (Cochrane RoB 2)

Is the numerical result being assessed likely to have been selected, on the basis of the results, from...		
5.2. ... multiple outcome measurements (e.g. scales, definitions, time points) within the outcome domain?		Y / PY / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
5.3 ... multiple analyses of the data?		Y / PY / <u>PN</u> / <u>N</u> / NI
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to selection of the reported result?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Overall risk of bias		
Risk-of-bias judgement		Low / High / Some concerns
Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to selection of the reported result?		Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable

Source: Revised Cochrane risk-of-bias tool for randomized trials (RoB 2). Edited by Julian PT Higgins, Jelena Savović, Matthew J Page, Jonathan AC Sterne on behalf of the ROB2 Development Group. Accessed 9 October 2018 <https://sites.google.com/site/riskofbiastool/>

Abbreviations: Y, Yes; PY, Probably yes; PN, Probably no; N, No; NI, No information

Notes: Responses underlined in green are potential markers for low risk of bias, and responses in red are potential markers for a risk of bias. Where questions relate only to sign posts to other questions, no formatting is used.

The response options for an overall risk-of-bias judgement are the same as for individual domains. Reaching an overall risk-of-bias judgement for a specific outcome is presented in Table B-5 below.

Table B-5: Quality assessment checklist for randomised controlled trials (RoB 2)

Reaching an overall risk-of-bias judgement for a specific outcome.	
Overall risk-of-bias judgement	Criteria
Low risk of bias	The study is judged to be at low risk of bias for all domains for this result.
Some concerns	The study is judged to raise some concerns in at least one domain for this result, but not to be at high risk of bias for any domain.
High risk of bias	The study is judged to be at high risk of bias in at least one domain for this result. Or The study is judged to have some concerns for multiple domains in a way that substantially lowers confidence in the result.

Source: Revised Cochrane risk-of-bias tool for randomized trials (RoB 2). Edited by Julian PT Higgins, Jelena Savović, Matthew J Page, Jonathan AC Sterne on behalf of the ROB2 Development Group. 9 October 2018 <https://sites.google.com/site/riskofbiastool/>

B.3.4 Non-randomised trials

ROBINS-I tool ("Risk of Bias in Non-randomized Studies - of Interventions") is concerned with evaluating the risk of bias in the results of nonrandomized studies of the effects of interventions (NRSIs) that compare the health effects of two or more interventions (Table B-6). The types of NRSIs that can be evaluated using this tool are quantitative studies estimating the effectiveness (harm or benefit) of an intervention, which did not use randomization to allocate units (individuals or clusters of individuals) to comparison groups. This includes studies where allocation occurs during the course of usual treatment decisions or peoples' choices: such studies are often called "observational". There are many types of such NRSIs, including cohort studies, case-control studies, controlled before-and-after studies, interrupted time-series studies and controlled trials in which intervention groups are allocated using a method that falls short of full randomization (sometimes called "quasi-randomized" studies).

Table B-6: Quality assessment checklist for cohort studies (ROBINS -1)

Bias domain	Signalling questions	Response options
Bias due to confounding		
	1.1 Is there potential for confounding of the effect of intervention in this study? If N/PN to 1.1: the study can be considered to be at low risk of bias due to confounding and no further signalling questions need be considered	Y / PY / PN / N
	If Y/PY to 1.1: determine whether there is a need to assess time-varying confounding:	
	1.2. Was the analysis based on splitting participants' follow up time according to intervention received? If N/PN , answer questions relating to baseline confounding (1.4 to 1.6) If Y/PY , go to question 1.3.	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	1.3. Were intervention discontinuations or switches likely to be related to factors that are prognostic for the outcome? If N/PN , answer questions relating to baseline confounding (1.4 to 1.6) If Y/PY , answer questions relating to both baseline and time-varying confounding (1.7 and 1.8)	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
Questions relating to baseline confounding only		
	1.4. Did the authors use an appropriate analysis method that controlled for all the important confounding domains?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	1.5. If Y/PY to 1.4: Were confounding domains that were controlled for measured validly and reliably by the variables available in this study?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	1.6. Did the authors control for any post- intervention variables that could have been affected by the intervention?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
Questions relating to baseline and time-varying confounding		
	1.7. Did the authors use an appropriate analysis method that controlled for all the important confounding domains and for time-varying confounding?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	1.8. If Y/PY to 1.7: Were confounding domains that were controlled for measured validly and reliably by the variables available in this study?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to confounding?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Unpredictable
Bias in selection of participants into the study		
	2.1. Was selection of participants into the study (or into the analysis) based on participant characteristics observed after the start of Intervention? If N/PN to 2.1: go to 2.4	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	2.2. If Y/PY to 2.1: Were the post- intervention variables that influenced selection likely to be associated with intervention?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	2.3 If Y/PY to 2.2: Were the post intervention variables that influenced selection likely to be influenced by the outcome or a cause of the outcome?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	2.4. Do start of follow-up and start of intervention coincide for most participants?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	2.5. If Y/PY to 2.2 and 2.3, or N/PN to 2.4: Were adjustment techniques used that are likely to correct for the presence of selection biases?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI

Bias domain	Signalling questions	Response options
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to selection of participants into the study?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Bias in classification of interventions		
	3.1 Were intervention groups clearly defined?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	3.2 Was the information used to define intervention groups recorded at the start of the intervention?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	3.3 Could classification of intervention status have been affected by knowledge of the outcome or risk of the outcome?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to measurement of outcomes or interventions?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Bias due to deviations from intended interventions		
	If your aim for this study is to assess the effect of assignment to intervention, answer questions 4.1 and 4.2	
	4.1. Were there deviations from the intended intervention beyond what would be expected in usual practice?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	4.2. If Y/PY to 4.1: Were these deviations from intended intervention unbalanced between groups and likely to have affected the outcome?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	If your aim for this study is to assess the effect of starting and adhering to intervention, answer questions 4.3 to 4.6	
	4.3. Were important co-interventions balanced across intervention groups?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	4.4. Was the intervention implemented successfully for most participants?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	4.5. Did study participants adhere to the assigned intervention regimen?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	4.6. If N/PN to 4.3, 4.4 or 4.5: Was an appropriate analysis used to estimate the effect of starting and adhering to the intervention?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to deviations from the intended interventions?	
Bias due to missing data		
	5.1 Were outcome data available for all, or nearly all, participants?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	5.2 Were participants excluded due to missing data on intervention status?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	5.3 Were participants excluded due to missing data on other variables needed for the analysis?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	5.4 If PN/N to 5.1, or Y/PY to 5.2 or 5.3: Are the proportion of participants and reasons for missing data similar across interventions?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	5.5 If PN/N to 5.1, or Y/PY to 5.2 or 5.3: Is there evidence that results were robust to the presence of missing data?	NA / Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI

Bias domain	Signalling questions	Response options
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to missing data?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Bias in measurement of outcomes		
	6.1 Could the outcome measure have been influenced by knowledge of the intervention received?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	6.2 Were outcome assessors aware of the intervention received by study participants?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	6.3 Were the methods of outcome assessment comparable across intervention groups?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	6.4 Were any systematic errors in measurement of the outcome related to intervention received?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to measurement of outcomes?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Bias in selection of the reported result		
	Is the reported effect estimate likely to be selected, on the basis of the results, from... 7.1. ... multiple outcome <i>measurements</i> within the outcome domain?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	7.2 ... multiple <i>analyses</i> of the intervention-outcome relationship?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	7.3 ... different <i>subgroups</i> ?	Y / PY / PN / N / NI
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the predicted direction of bias due to selection of the reported result?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable
Overall bias		
	Risk of bias judgement	Low / Moderate / Serious / Critical / NI
	Optional: What is the overall predicted direction of bias for this outcome?	Favours experimental / Favours comparator / Towards null / Away from null / Unpredictable

Source: Sterne JAC, Hernán MA, Reeves BC, Savović J, Berkman ND, Viswanathan M, Henry D, Altman DG, Ansari MT, Boutron I, Carpenter JR, Chan AW, Churchill R, Deeks JJ, Hróbjartsson A, Kirkham J, Jüni P, Loke YK, Pigott TD, Ramsay CR, Regidor D, Rothstein HR, Sandhu L, Santaguida PL, Schünemann HJ, Shea B, Shrier I, Tugwell P, Turner L, Valentine JC, Waddington H, Waters E, Wells GA, Whiting PF, Higgins JPT. ROBINS-I: a tool for assessing risk of bias in non-randomized studies of interventions. *BMJ* 2016; 355: i4919; doi: 10.1136/bmj.i4919.

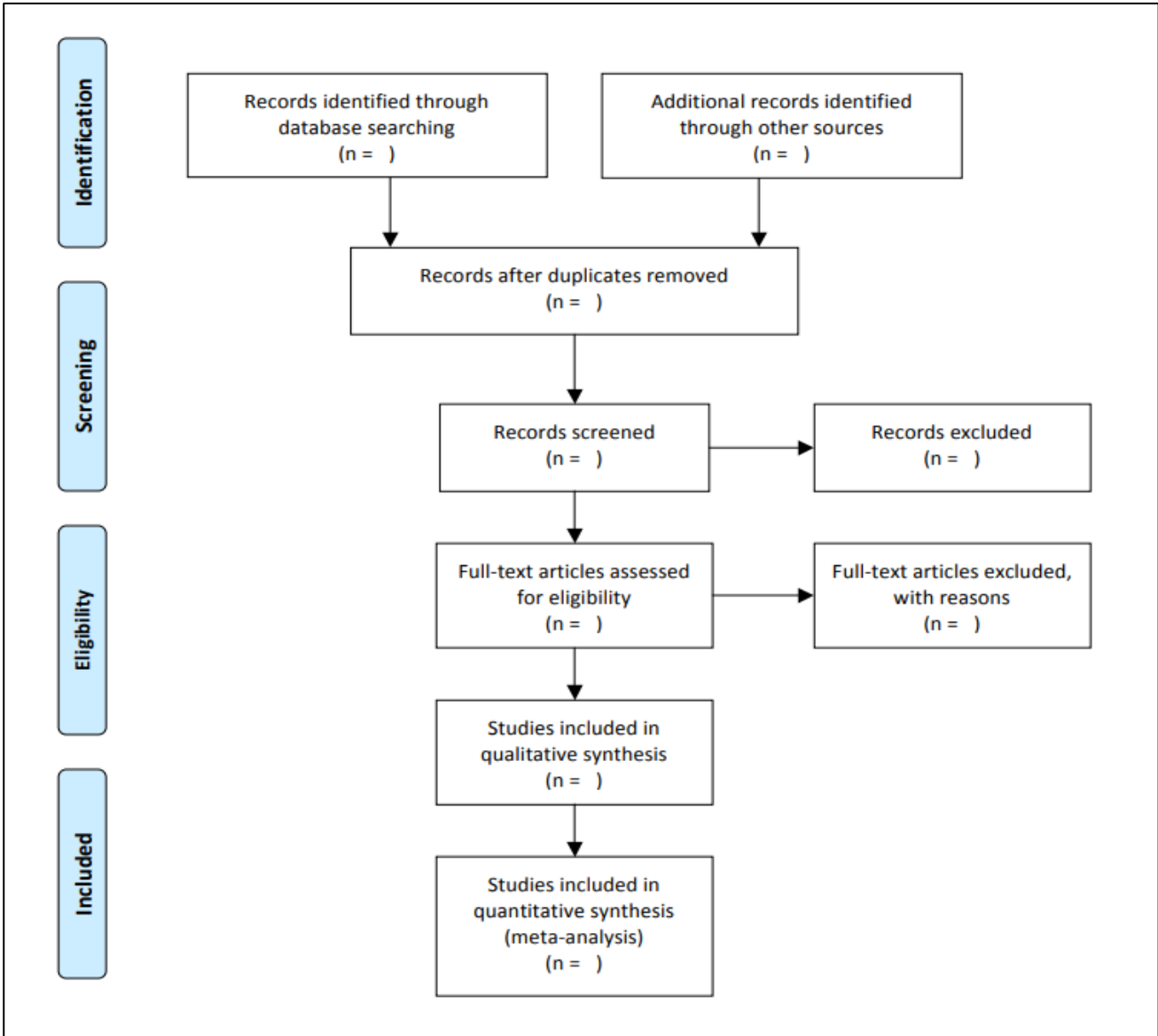
Abbreviations: Y, Yes; PY, Probably yes; PN, Probably no; N, No; NI, No information

Notes: Responses underlined in green are potential markers for low risk of bias, and responses in red are potential markers for a risk of bias. Where questions relate only to sign posts to other questions, no formatting is used.

B.4 PRISMA FLOW DIAGRAM

The flow of information through the different phases of the systematic literature review will be presented in a PRISMA Flow Diagram. Figure B-1 presents a PRISMA flow chart for systematic review.

Figure B-1: PRISMA flow chart for systematic review



Source: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and MetaAnalyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7)

APPENDIX C: GAUCHER DISEASE IN AUSTRALIA

This Appendix provides a brief description of Gaucher disease and how it is diagnosed and managed.

C.1 DESCRIPTION AND DIAGNOSIS OF GAUCHER DISEASE

Gaucher disease is a pan-ethnic autosomal recessive genetic disorder and is the most common type of lysosomal storage disease. The disease is brought on by a deficiency in beta-glucocerebrosidase, an enzyme encoded by the *GBA* gene and responsible for breaking down glucocerebroside in lysosomes. *GBA* mutations can result in the marked reduction of beta-glucocerebrosidase activity, leading to pathogenic build-up of glucocerebroside, particularly in macrophages.^{21, 22} Affected macrophages, termed 'Gaucher cells', infiltrate various sites of the body including in the bone marrow, spleen, and liver.²³ Accumulation of Gaucher cells in a range of tissues underpins the multi-organs manifestation of the disease. Table C-1 describes three forms of Gaucher disease that have been recognised based on age of onset, clinical signs and neurological findings.

Table C-1: Three clinical subtypes of Gaucher disease

Clinical Features	Type I	Type II	Type III
Age at presentation	Childhood to adulthood	Perinatal to 6 month infancy	Childhood
Splenomegaly	+ to +++	++	+ to +++
Hepatomegaly	+ to +++	++	+ to +++
Skeletal disease	+ to +++	–	++ or +++
Primary CNS disease	–	+++	+ to +++
Lifespan expectancy	6 to 80+ years	Less than 2 years	2 to 60 years

Abbreviations: CNS, central nervous system.

Some disease characteristics occur in all three subtypes of the disease, for instance hepatosplenomegaly and haematological disorders. While Gaucher disease (Type 1) symptoms are widely variable, it is distinguished by the absence of neurological presentations. Gaucher disease (Type 1) patients typically show hypersplenism and aggregates of large Gaucher cells in bone marrow. Thrombocytopenia may present as childhood nose bleeds, easy bruising or haemorrhaging. Skeletal manifestations are a major source of disability in Gaucher disease, affecting over 80% of symptomatic patients and may result in serious complications.

There is no bone involvement Gaucher disease (Type 2), but affected infants may present with oculomotor paralysis, seizures, sleep apnoea related to laryngeal spasms, and growth retardation. Like Gaucher disease (Type 1), Gaucher disease (Type 3) phenotypes are heterogenous, particularly with neurological symptoms. Some patients may show systemic involvement with horizontal ophthalmoplegia being the only neurological symptom. In other Gaucher disease (Type 3) cases, seizures, cerebellar ataxia, spasticity, and/or dementia can occur several years following visceral manifestations.²²

In 2015 Australia was involved in an international collaboration to establish guidelines for the diagnosis of Gaucher disease.²⁴ It was agreed that splenomegaly, thrombocytopenia, anaemia, hepatomegaly, bone issues (pain crises, avascular necrosis and fractures) were major signs of Gaucher disease. Family history of the disease was also considered a major co-variable.

Diagnosis of Gaucher disease is confirmed with the measurement of beta-glucosylceramidase enzyme activity from peripheral blood leukocytes or cultured skin fibroblasts; 0% to 15% of normal activity points to disease. Diagnosis is also confirmed by the identification of bi-allelic pathogenic variants of *GBA*.^{21, 22} More than 400 different pathogenic *GBA* mutations have been reported in patients affected by Gaucher disease.²⁵

C.2 ACCESS TO LSDP MEDICINES FOR PATIENTS WITH GAUCHER DISEASE (TYPE 1)

The LSDP subsidises the full cost of three medications used to treat patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1). Hence this review of Gaucher disease will only include Gaucher disease (Type 1) as patients with Gaucher disease (Type 2 and Type 3) are not eligible for LSDP medication. Formal ophthalmologic review and neurodevelopmental status reports are required for LSDP application.⁸ Patients need to satisfy the criteria set out in Table C-2 to be eligible for LSDP subsidies.

Table C-2: LSDP Guidelines on patient eligibility criteria

Overarching criteria for all patients	Criteria for initial application	Criteria for ongoing treatment	Exclusions criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient is a permanent Australian resident who qualifies for Medicare. • Patient is not suffering from other medical condition, including complications or sequelae of the Gaucher disease (Type 1) that might compromise effectiveness of LSDP drug under application. • Patient meets the initial and ongoing criteria outlined in LSDP Guidelines (detailed below) for individual disease-specific medicines listed on the LSDP. • Patient must participate in the evaluation of effectiveness of the drug by periodic assessment, as directed by the LSDP Guidelines, or have a 	<p>(a) Diagnosis of Gaucher disease: Deficiency of glucocerebrosidase enzyme activity in leukocytes or cultured skin fibroblasts, or by the presence of mutations in the glucocerebrosidase gene, known to result in severe deficiency of enzyme activity, in tissue or peripheral blood leukocytes.</p> <p>plus ONE of points b to d</p> <p>(b) Skeletal: Evidence of skeletal disease beyond mild osteopenia or Erlenmeyer flask deformity, as assessed by symptoms, skeletal survey and MRI.</p> <p>(c) Haematological complications: Haemoglobin <105g/L for females and <115g/L for males (at least two measurements more than one month apart and having excluded other causes (e.g. iron deficiency; or platelet count <120 x10⁹/L on at least two occasions (more than one month apart).</p> <p>(d) Gastrointestinal complications: Liver volume (CT or MRI) 1.25 x</p>	<p>Subsidised treatment may continue unless one or more of the following situations apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • failure to comply adequately with treatment or measures; • failure to provide data, copies of test results and the Excel spreadsheet for Gaucher disease (Type1), evidencing the effectiveness of the therapy; • therapy fails to relieve the symptoms of disease that originally resulted in the patient being approved for subsidised treatment; • development of the following features consistent with a neuronopathic form of Gaucher disease: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ opisthotonus; ➢ seizures; ➢ bulbar dysfunction (manifested by swallowing difficulties); ➢ deteriorating intellectual function (defined by age-appropriate neuropsychological assessment); or, ➢ deterioration in motor skills; • the patient has severe infusion-related adverse reactions which are not preventable by appropriate pre-medication and/or adjustment of infusion rates; • the patient develops another life threatening or severe disease where the long-term prognosis is unlikely to be influenced by ERT; • the patient develops another medical condition that might reasonably be expected to compromise a 	<p>The following conditions render a patient ineligible for subsidised treatment of Type 1 Gaucher disease through the LSDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymptomatic patients: treatment of asymptomatic patients is not generally granted unless the disease is of sufficient severity to suggest impending complications (this could be determined through mutation analysis in the asymptomatic patient), or for a patient with a family history of a severe, accelerated course of the disease in childhood. • Patients with confounding diagnoses: patients with potentially confounding diagnoses, such as Hodgkin lymphoma. • Patients with irreversible complications of Gaucher disease: In some patients with Gaucher disease, secondary pathologic changes, such as avascular necrosis of bone, may already have occurred that would not be expected to respond to therapy. In such patients, reversal of the pathology is unlikely. Treatment of patients with significant secondary pathology would be directed at preventing further progression of the disease. In these cases, the extent to which symptoms, such as bone pain, are due to active progression of the disease, rather than the secondary pathology, can only be established by a trial of therapy. • Patients with a presence of another life threatening or severe disease where the long-term prognosis is unlikely to be influenced by therapy. • The presence of another medical condition that might reasonably be expected to compromise a response to therapy.

Overarching criteria for all patients	Criteria for initial application	Criteria for ongoing treatment	Exclusions criteria
reason not to participate.	normal; or Spleen volume (CT or MRI) 5x normal.	response to ERT; and/or presentation of conditions listed in the exclusion criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patients participating in an active clinical trial are not eligible for subsidised treatment through the LSDP.

Source: Australian Government. Department of Health (2018) *LSDP - Information for patients, prescribers and pharmacists*⁸; Australian Government. Department of Health (2018) LSDP guidelines for initial and annual reapplication for subsidised treatment for Gaucher disease (Type 1).⁸

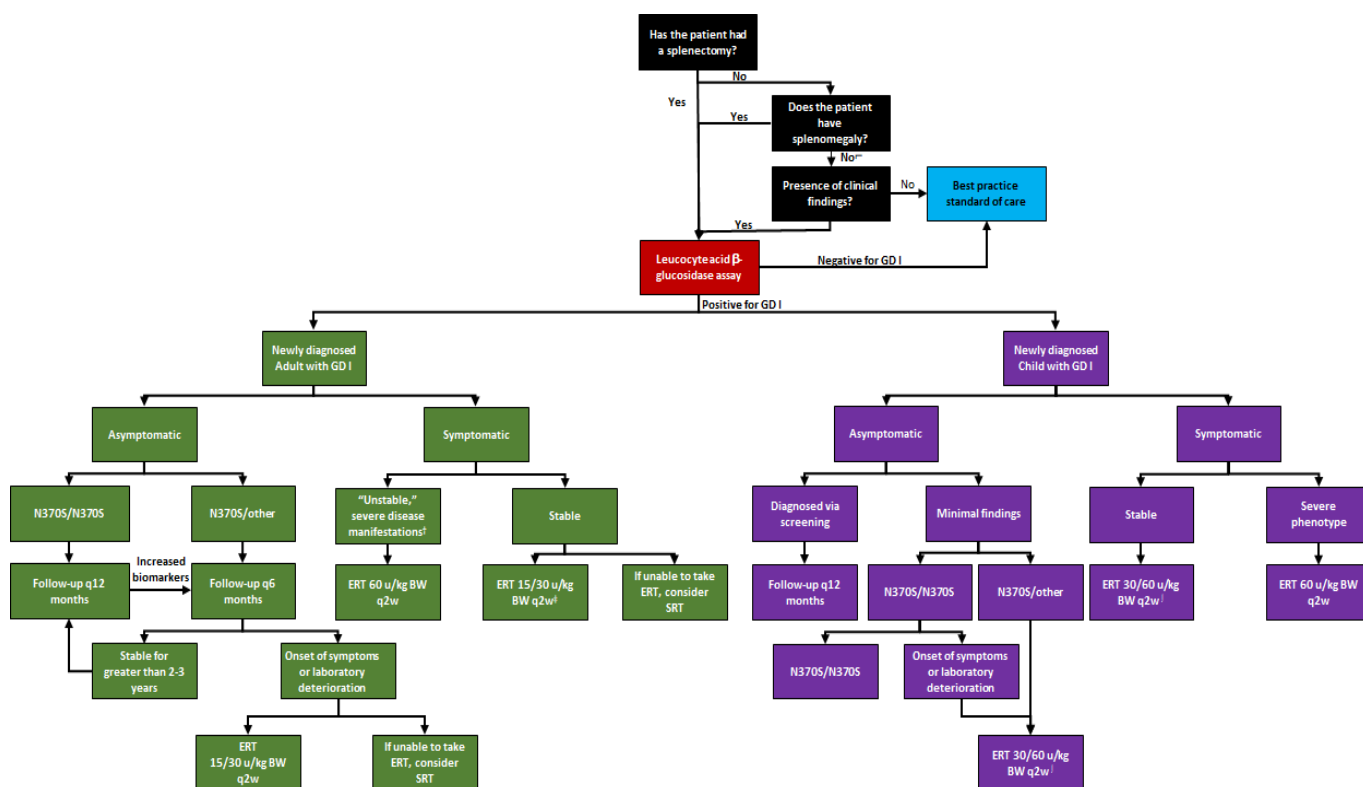
The LSDP guidelines currently require a diagnosis of Gaucher disease to be detected by a deficiency of glucocerebrosidase enzyme activity in leukocytes or cultured skin fibroblasts, or by the presence of mutations in the glucocerebrosidase gene, known to result in severe deficiency of enzyme activity, in tissue or peripheral blood leukocytes. This diagnosis must be accompanied with either/or confirmation of:

- Evidence of skeletal disease as assessed by symptoms, skeletal survey and MRI
- Haematological complications on at least two occasions (more than one month apart)
- Gastrointestinal complications (greater liver or spleen volumes)

Figure C-1 provides a simple clinical treatment algorithm of how patients diagnosed with Gaucher disease (Type I) obtain access to treatment. This algorithm depicts the pathway for Ashkenazi Jewish populations. Figure C-2 demonstrates the algorithm for non-Ashkenazi Jewish patients.

More information on how the current guidelines determine access to Gaucher disease medication can be found in Appendix C.2. Testing protocols and clinical results that are monitored as part of the LSDP can be found in Table A-1 of Appendix A.1.

Figure C-1: Clinical treatment algorithm for Ashkenazi Jewish origin Gaucher Disease, Type 1 patients



Source: Mistry et al., 2011²⁶ Figure 4 p111; Revel-Vilk et al., 2018²⁷ Figure 3A and 3B p473

Abbreviations: ERT, Enzyme reduction therapy; BW, bodyweight; GD I, Gaucher disease (Type 1); N370S: glucosylceramidase beta (GBA) N370S mutation; q2w, dosed every two weeks; q6, every 6; q12, every 12; SRT, Substrate reduction therapy. Note:

* Findings include: Low platelets, unexplained bleeding tendency, unexplained stable hyperferritinaemia + normal transferrin saturation and increased inflammatory markers

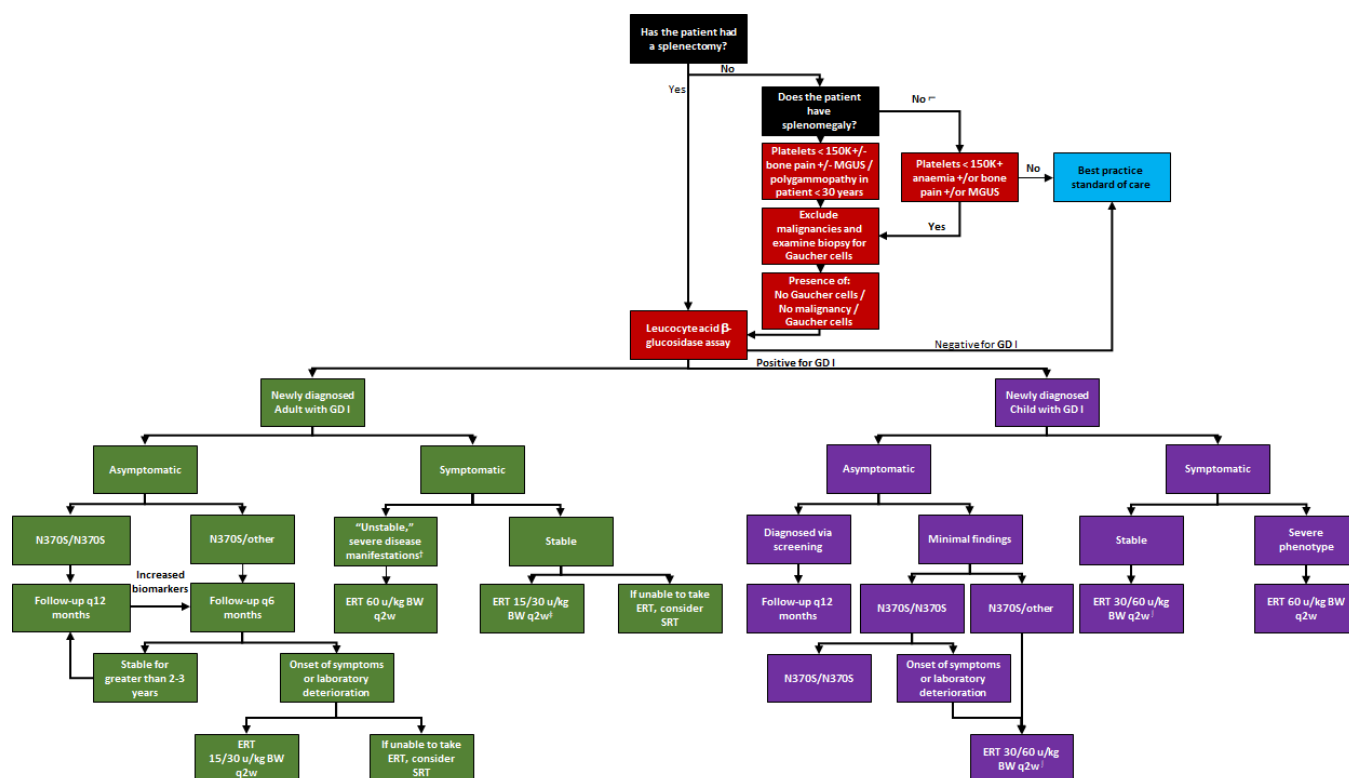
† Additional information to support the suspicion of Gaucher disease includes a history of: Gall stones, abdominal discomfort, low cholesterol, hyperferritinaemia, splenic nodules, pregnancy associated thrombocytopenia, post-partum hemorrhage, bone pain, gammopathies.

‡ Manifestations include: Pregnancy with severe thrombocytopenia/bleeding tendency; Newly diagnosed malignancy; bone crisis or uncontrolled sepsis

§ ERT dose – 30 u/kg/bodyweight used in UK/Australia; 15 u/kg/bodyweight used in Israel

¶ ERT dose – 60 u/kg/bodyweight used in UK/Australia; 30 u/kg/bodyweight used in Israel - In early presentation, if there is no N370S allele, rule out Gaucher disease, Type III

Figure C-2: Clinical treatment algorithm for non-Ashkenazi Jewish origin Gaucher Disease, Type 1 patients



Source: Mistry et al., 2011²⁶ Figure 5 p112; Revel-Vilk et al., 2018²⁷ Figure 3A and 3B p473

Abbreviations: ERT, Enzyme replacement therapy; BW, bodyweight; GD I, Gaucher disease (Type 1); MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; N370S: glucosylceramidase beta (GBA) N370S mutation; q2w, dosed every two weeks; q6, every 6; q12, every 12; SRT, Substrate reduction therapy.

Note:

* Findings include: Low platelets, unexplained bleeding tendency, unexplained stable hyperferritinaemia + normal transferrin saturation and increased inflammatory markers

† Additional information to support the suspicion of Gaucher disease includes a history of: Gall stones, abdominal discomfort, low cholesterol, hyperferritinaemia, splenic nodules, pregnancy associated thrombocytopenia, post-partum hemorrhage, bone pain, gammopathies.

‡ Manifestations include: Pregnancy with severe thrombocytopenia/bleeding tendency; Newly diagnosed malignancy; bone crisis or uncontrolled sepsis

± ERT dose – 30 u/kg/bodyweight used in UK/Australia; 15 u/kg/bodyweight used in Israel

∓ ERT dose – 60 u/kg/bodyweight used in UK/Australia; 30 u/kg/bodyweight used in Israel - In early presentation, if there is no N370S allele, rule out Gaucher disease, Type III

C.3 PHARMACOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT OF GAUCHER DISEASE

In Australia, ERT has been the traditional approach to stabilising disease in Gaucher patients. While substrate reduction therapy with miglustat (Zavesca®) was made available under the LSDP in 2009, it is out of scope for this Review Protocol. The Commonwealth Department of Health is undertaking a literature review of the use of miglustat in Gaucher disease management which will be considered separately by the Expert Panel.

There are three ERT options for long-term treatment of Gaucher disease (Type 1) on the LSDP including:

- **Imiglucerase (Cerezyme®):** a recombinant, macrophage-targeted, variant of human beta-glucocerebrosidase, purified from the hamster-derived CHO cell line.²⁸ It was made available through the LSDP since 1999. Initial dosages range from 2.5 units (U)/kilogram (kg) of body weight by intravenous infusion over 1 to 2 hours three times per week to 60 U/kg once every two weeks. Adjustments to dosage and frequency of treatment are made on an individual basis.
- **Velaglucerase (VPRIV®):** an endogenous beta-glucocerebrosidase produced in the human HT-1080 fibrosarcoma cell line using gene-activation technology.²⁹ It was made available through the LSDP in 2012 for adult and paediatric patients with Gaucher disease (Type 1). Velaglucerase is equi-effective at a 1:1 ratio to imiglucerase and also shares a recommended dosage of 60 U/kg body weight every other week as

a 60-minute intravenous infusion. Australian patients being treated with another ERT for Gaucher disease (Type 1) may be switched to velaglucerase using the same dose and frequency.

- **Taliglucerase (Elelyso®):** a recombinant active form of the human beta-glucocerebrosidase enzyme which is expressed in genetically modified carrot plant root cells.²⁸ It was made available through the LSDP in 2015 for adult and paediatric Gaucher disease (Type 1) patients. Taliglucerase is administered by intravenous infusion over a period of 1 to 2 hours. Initial doses range from 30 to 60 U/kg body weight once every two weeks. Dosage adjustments are made on an individual basis depending on clinical assessment of the treating physician and achievement of therapeutic goals. Patients currently being treated with imiglucerase for Gaucher disease (Type 1) can be switched to taliglucerase.

Concomitant pharmacological intervention is considered for some Gaucher-related multi-organ symptoms that are non-responsive to ERT. Level I and II analgesics are used in cases of painful bone crisis.²² Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may be used to treat non-specific pain in paediatric patients.³⁰ Alendronate has been shown to be an effective adjunct treatment for osteopenia in Gaucher patients receiving ERT.³¹ Haematological manifestations typically resolve with ERT, however, persistent thrombocytopenia requiring thrombopoietin receptor analogue (romiplostim) has been documented.³²

Table C-3 summarises the three LSDP-funded medicines used for Gaucher disease (Type 1) management including units/vial, date of listing and sponsor.

Table C-3: LSDP-subsidised ERT for the treatment of Gaucher disease (Type 1)

Medicine	Units / vial	Date of listing	Sponsor
Imiglucerase (Cerezyme®)	200	1/08/1999	Genzyme
	400		
Velaglucerase (VPRIV®)	400	1/08/2012	Shire
Taliglucerase (Elelyso®)	200	1/10/2015	Pfizer

APPENDIX D: POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS

D.1 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 1

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency") AND (Prevalence OR Epidemiology OR Incidence OR Morbidity OR "Allele frequency" OR "Mutation frequency" OR Cases OR Mortality OR Deaths OR Survival)

D.2 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 2

CADTH's database of search filters¹² were consulted for this ToR. Below is the PubMed search string used for this ToR:

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency") AND (Clinical pathway OR Clinical protocol OR Consensus OR Consensus development conferences as topic OR Critical pathways OR Guidelines as topic [Mesh:NoExp] OR Practice guidelines as topic OR Health planning guidelines OR guideline OR practice guideline OR consensus development conference OR consensus development conference OR position statement* OR policy statement* OR practice parameter* OR best practice* OR standards OR guideline* OR clinical algorithm* OR recommendat* OR screening OR examination OR assessment* OR test*) AND (Monitoring OR Outcomes OR "Follow up" OR "Disease severity")

D.3 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 3

A comprehensive search of the scientific literature will be conducted to identify randomised controlled trials addressing the key research questions. Potential search terms for the identification of evidence relating to ToR 3, imiglucerase, velaglucerase, and taliglucerase to placebo and against each other within the database MEDLINE (via PUBMED.com) are shown in Table D-1. Syntax will be modified for database searches in EMBASE (via EMBASE.com), Cochrane Library (Includes the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials and the Health Technology Assessment database), ClinicalTrials.gov, International Clinical Trials Registry Platform, Australian Clinical Trials Registry, Internal registries (e.g., Original PBAC funding application pivotal trials that informed the medicines inclusion on the LSDP) and other sources (e.g., Database of Adverse Events Notifications Data from ARTG, PBAC PSDs for Gaucher disease, Product information documents for Gaucher disease medicines on the ARTG, AIHW National Death Index data and Cause of Death data, Gaucher disease registry and Gaucher Disease Outcome Survey published registry data reports).

Table D-1: Search terms for Medline (via PubMed) ToR 3, imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase to placebo and against each other. *

#	Search terms	Number of citations
#1	Randomized controlled trial [Publication Type]	475924
#2	Controlled clinical trial [Publication Type]	563962
#3	Randomized [Title/Abstract]	557944
#4	Placebo [Title/Abstract]	201975
#5	Drug therapy [MeSH Subheading]	2080803
#6	Randomly [Title/Abstract]	304614

#	Search terms	Number of citations
#7	Trial [Title/Abstract]	918103
#8	Groups [Title/Abstract]	3334095
#9	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8	5746589
#10	Animals [MeSH Terms] NOT Humans [MeSH Terms]	4541690
#11	#9 NOT #10	4966533
#12	Gaucher [Text Word]	3562
#13	Gaucher disease [MeSH Terms]	4448
#14	#12 OR #13	5398
#15	Enzyme replac*[Text Word]	4700
#16	Enzyme replacement therapy [MeSH Terms]	1626
#17	Substrate [Text Word]	453841
#18	#15 OR #16 OR #17	458358
#19	Reduc*[Text Word]	3035035
#20	Substrate depriv*[Text Word]	151
#21	#19 OR #20	3190415
#22	Imiglucerase [Supplementary Concept]	281
#23	Imiglucerase [All Fields]	396
#24	Cerezyme [Text Word]	267
#25	Cerezyme [All Fields]	396
#26	#22 OR #23 OR #24 OR #25	396
#27	Taliglucerase [All Fields]	41
#28	Elelyso [All Fields]	41
#29	Elelyso [Supplementary Concept]	21
#30	#27 OR #28 OR #29	47
#31	Velaglucerase [All Fields]	74
#32	VPRIV [All Fields]	60
#33	#31 OR #32	75
#34	#26 OR #30 OR #33	442
#35	#21 OR #26	3190693
#36	#21 OR #30	3190447
#37	#21 OR #33	3190466
#38	#21 OR #34	3190724
#39	#11 AND #14 AND #18 AND #35 ^a	341
#40	#11 AND #14 AND #18 AND #36 ^a	224
#41	#11 AND #14 AND #18 AND #37 ^a	241
#42	#11 AND #14 AND #18 AND #38 ^b	353

Abbreviations: GLA, galactosidase A; MeSH, medical subject headings;

Notes: a Potential search terms to identify imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase vs placebo trials

b Potential search terms to identify imiglucerase, velaglucerase and taliglucerase head to head studies

≠ Date of search for reproducibility 31 Jan 2019

D.4 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 4

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency") AND ("patient centred outcome" OR "patient centered outcome" OR "patient reported outcome" OR "patient related outcome" OR "patient outcome")

D.5 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 5

For the search of economic evaluations:

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency")

AND

(Economics[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Costs and Cost Analysis"[mh] OR Economics, Nursing[mh] OR Economics, Medical[mh] OR Economics, Pharmaceutical[mh] OR Economics, Hospital[mh] OR Economics, Dental[mh] OR "Fees and Charges"[mh] OR Budgets[mh] OR budget*[tiab] OR economic*[tiab] OR cost[tiab] OR costs[tiab] OR costly[tiab] OR costing[tiab] OR price[tiab] OR prices[tiab] OR pricing[tiab] OR pharmacoeconomic*[tiab] OR pharmaco-economic*[tiab] OR expenditure[tiab] OR expenditures[tiab] OR expense[tiab] OR expenses[tiab] OR financial[tiab] OR finance[tiab] OR finances[tiab] OR financed[tiab] OR value for money[tiab] OR monetary value*[tiab] OR models, economic[mh] OR economic model*[tiab] OR markov chains[mh] OR markov[tiab] OR monte carlo method[mh] OR monte carlo[tiab] OR Decision Theory[mh] OR decision tree*[tiab] OR decision analy*[tiab] OR decision model*[tiab])

For the search of quality of life:

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency")

AND

("Value of Life"[mh] OR Quality of Life[mh] OR quality of life[tiab] OR Quality-Adjusted Life Years[mh] OR quality adjusted life[tiab] OR qaly*[tiab] OR qald*[tiab] OR qale*[tiab] OR qtime*[tiab] OR life year[tiab] OR life years[tiab] OR disability adjusted life[tiab] OR daly*[tiab] OR sf36[tiab] OR sf 36[tiab] OR short form 36[tiab] OR shortform 36[tiab] OR short form36[tiab] OR shortform36[tiab] OR sf6[tiab] OR sf 6[tiab] OR short form 6[tiab] OR sf6d[tiab] OR sf 6d[tiab] OR short form 6d[tiab] OR sf8[tiab] OR sf 8[tiab] OR short form 8[tiab] OR sf12[tiab] OR sf 12[tiab] OR short form 12[tiab] OR sf16[tiab] OR sf 16[tiab] OR sf20[tiab] OR sf 20[tiab] OR short form 20[tiab] OR hq[tiab] OR hqol[tiab] OR h qol[tiab] OR hrqol[tiab] OR hr qol[tiab] OR hye[tiab] OR hyes[tiab] OR healthy year equivalent*[tiab] OR healthy years equivalent*[tiab] OR pqol[tiab] OR qls[tiab] OR quality of well being[tiab] OR index of wellbeing[tiab] OR qwb[tiab] OR nottingham health profile*[tiab] OR sickness impact profile[tiab] OR health status indicators[mh] OR health utilit*[tiab] OR health status[tiab] OR disutilit*[tiab] OR rosser[tiab] OR willingness to pay[tiab] OR standard gamble*[tiab] OR time trade off[tiab] OR time tradeoff[tiab] OR tto[tiab] OR hui[tiab] OR hui1[tiab] OR hui2[tiab] OR hui3[tiab] OR eq[tiab] OR euroqol[tiab] OR euro qol[tiab] OR eq5d[tiab] OR eq 5d[tiab] OR euroqual[tiab] OR euro qual[tiab] OR duke health profile[tiab] OR functional status questionnaire[tiab] OR dartmouth coop functional health assessment*[tiab] OR (utilit*[tiab] AND (valu*[tiab] OR measur*[tiab] OR health[tiab] OR life[tiab] OR estimat*[tiab] OR elicit*[tiab] OR disease[tiab] OR score*[tiab] OR weight[tiab])) OR (preference*[tiab] AND (valu*[tiab] OR measur*[tiab] OR health[tiab] OR life[tiab] OR estimat*[tiab] OR elicit*[tiab] OR disease[tiab] OR score*[tiab] OR instrument[tiab] OR instruments[tiab]))))

D.6 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 6

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency")

AND

("Adherence, Medication" OR "Medication Nonadherence" OR "Nonadherence, Medication" OR "Medication Noncompliance" OR "Noncompliance, Medication" OR "Medication Non-Adherence" OR "Medication Non Adherence" OR "Non-Adherence, Medication" OR "Medication Persistence" OR "Persistence, Medication")

OR "Medication Compliance" OR "Compliance, Medication" OR "Medication Non-Compliance" OR "Medication Non Compliance" OR "Non-Compliance, Medication")

AND utilisation OR utilization

AND

(imiglucerase OR cerezyme OR velaglucerase OR VPRIV OR taliglucerase OR elelyso)

D.7 POTENTIAL SEARCH TERMS: TOR 7

("Gaucher disease" OR "Gaucher disease type 1" OR "Gaucher disease, type 1" OR "Type 1 Gaucher" OR "Gaucher disease type I" OR "Gaucher disease, type I" OR "Type I Gaucher" OR "GD I" OR "GD 1" OR "Gaucher disease, noncerebral juvenile" OR "glucocerebrosidase deficiency" OR "acid beta-glucosidase deficiency" OR "GBA deficiency") AND ((orphan AND (drug OR therap* OR medicine OR device*)) OR (diagnos* OR (screen OR screening) OR (device* OR test)) OR (future OR novel OR emerging))

APPENDIX E: HORIZON SCAN DATA SOURCES AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

For the purposes of the horizon scan, the data sources listed in Table E-1 will be searched for emerging technologies for Gaucher disease.

Table E-1: List of resources to be used in the horizon scan

Data source	Website
Peer-reviewed databases	
Embase	http://www.ovid.com/site/catalog/databases/903.jsp
PubMed	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/
Cochrane Library	https://www.cochranelibrary.com/
International organisations	
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	https://www.nih.gov/
NIH National Centre for Advancing Translational Sciences	https://ncats.nih.gov/index.php
NIH Office of Intermural Research Office of Technology Transfer	https://www.ott.nih.gov/resources
NIH National Human Genome Research Institute	https://www.genome.gov/
Early assessment & alert systems	
National Horizon Scanning Centre	https://www.nihr.ac.uk/research-and-impact/emerging-health-technologies/horizon-scanning-research.htm
EuroScan	http://euroscan.org.uk/
SPS NIH	https://www.sps.nhs.uk/?s&cat%5B0%5D=3342
HTA / Independent research organisations	
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	https://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/evidence-based-reports/search.html
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH):	https://www.cadth.ca/
CADTH Health Technology Update	https://www.cadth.ca/reports?keywords=&product_type%5B%5D=107327&sort=field_date%3Avalue-desc&amount_per_page=10&email_address=&page=1
CADTH Issues in Emerging Technology	https://www.cadth.ca/reports?keywords=&result_type[]=report&product_type[]=107322&sort=field_date%3Avalue-desc&amount_per_page=10&email=&page=1
Haute Autorité de Santé (HAS)	https://www.has-sante.fr/portail/jcms/r_1455081/Home-page
National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence (NICE)	http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/about-evidence-services/content-and-sources/medicines-information
National Coordinating Centre for Health Technology Assessment	http://www.nccta.org
Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC)	https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/about-us/horizon-scanning/
Regulatory agencies	
Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)	http://www.tga.gov.au/
US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	http://www.fda.gov/default.htm
FDA Office of Orphan Drugs Development	https://www.fda.gov/aboutfda/centersoffices/officeofmedicalproductsandtobacco/officeofscienceandhealthcoordination/ucm2018190.htm
European Medicines Agency (EMA)	http://www.ema.europa.eu/en/
News	
PharmaTimes	http://www.pharmatimes.com/
Healio	http://www.healio.com/
EurekAlert!	http://www.eurekalert.org/
Medpage Today	http://www.medpagetoday.com/
PharmaLive	https://www.pharmalive.com/

Data source	Website
PR Newswire	https://www.prnewswire.com/
Clinical trials registries	
Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR)	http://www.anzctr.org.au/
EU Clinical Trials Register	https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/
National Institute of Health - U.S. National Library of Medicine	https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/home
Current Controlled Trials metaRegister (US and UK clinical trial registers)	http://www.isrctn.com/
Other	
Orphanet	https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/index.php
Rare Voices	https://www.rarevoices.org.au/
NORD	https://rarediseases.org/
Eurordis	https://www.eurordis.org
F1000Poster	https://f1000research.com/

Abbreviations: AHRQ, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; ASHP, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; CADTH, Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health; EMA, European medicines agency; EU, European union; FDA, Food and drug administration; HAS, Haute Autorité de Santé; HTA Health technology assessment; KCE, Belgian Health Care Knowledge Centre; NCCHTA, National Coordinating Centre for Health Technology Assessment; NECA, National Evidence-based healthcare Collaborating Agency; NHS CRD, University of York NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination; NHS HTA, National Health Service Health Technology Assessment (UK); NHMRC, National Health and Medical Research Council; NICE, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; SPS NHS, Specialist Pharmacist Service NHS; SMC, Scottish Medicines Consortium; TGA, Therapeutic goods administration

The developing technology summary sheet in Table E-2 is to be completed for upcoming treatments and tests that could impact future access for Gaucher disease patients. The goal of the summary sheet is to provide a synopsis of the identified technology, in addition to its clinical and regulatory progress to date. Furthermore, the table will also provide information regarding other pieces of information that address one or more of the multiple dot points under Section 8.9. Sources for all pieces of information use in the developing technology summary sheet will also be provided for easy referencing.

Table E-2: Developing technology summary sheet

Developing technology summary sheet				
Product brief				
Proprietary name:				
Type of technology (test/treatment [functional agent name]):				
Method of action:				
Stage of development (Pre-clinical – Phase IV):				
Indicated for Gaucher disease?				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, what is the official indication? 				
Approved for Gaucher disease in Australia?				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the ARTG number (if available): 				
Registered elsewhere (if yes, list all countries)?				
Clinical trials				
Study title <i>Trial number</i>	Trial status	Intervention/treatment	Site Locations (n)	Trial outcomes (primary and secondary)
Other				
Sources				