Dear colleague,

We have today (date to be inserted) published the National Stoma Quality Improvement Group (NSQIG) report. This can be accessed here (insert link if not attached as PDF).

As chair of the group, I wish to thank all of the stakeholders who have contributed since the report was commissioned by the NHS Scotland Executive Nurse Director Group (SEND) in 2018.

Led by the Scottish Deputy Nurse Director Group (SDNDF) and fully supported by Scottish Government, including Scotland’s Chief Nursing Officer, and by NHS National Services Scotland (NSS), this report delivers a series of 14 key recommendations.

These have been gathered from Senior Nurses, pharmacy, prescribing, procurement and management colleagues from across the NHS in Scotland. In addition, there has been valuable input from patient representatives and constructive engagement with commercial partners.

The culmination of that collective effort is a report whose recommendations can transform stoma care for Scotland.

They provide a clear pathway to an efficient, transparent and consistent ‘Once For Scotland’ prescribing model. This can generate savings of millions of pounds while delivering better outcomes and improved self-management for patients.

Their implementation, with a clear focus on improved independent data supporting NHS nurses and prescribers, will be a significant step towards realising our shared ambition of value-based care.

I am conscious that this report has been long awaited. This delay is due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our national response required many of my colleagues across the NHS and beyond to immediately re-prioritise their work to focus on the pandemic.

That same spirit, of a shared national strategy and purpose enabling effective delivery at the local level, underpins this report and I commend it to you.

Kind regards.

Craig Stewart

Associate Nurse Director, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Chair, National Stoma Quality Improvement Group (NSQIG)