

**From:** Media Relations [REDACTED] >  
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**Subject:** New NHS report could transform stoma care for thousands across Scotland



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DRAFT CONTENT - Publish Date TBC

## New NHS report could transform stoma care for thousands across Scotland

NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) has today (DATE HERE) released the National Stoma Quality Improvement Group (NSQIG) Report. The group was commissioned by the Scottish Executive Nurse Director Group (SEND) and has been endorsed by Scotland's Chief Nursing Officer Fiona McQueen and Chief Pharmaceutical Officer Rose Marie Parr.

The recommendations of the long-awaited NSQIG report could transform stoma care for patients, and NHS staff.

Around 20,000 people in Scotland have a stoma, which is an opening on the abdomen connected to the digestive or urinary system to allow waste to be diverted out of the body.

Providing stoma care now costs NHS Scotland £31million a year. That figure is the result of costs increasing by 65% over the previous five years. Prescribing variations, lack of clarity over best practice and inappropriate use of products mean that it can cost more than £6000 per year to provide stoma care for some patients. The average cost should be between £700 and £2300.

Specialist stoma nurses and senior nursing colleagues were part of the NSQIG, which also including leading community and public health pharmacists, Health Board Prescribing Team representatives, General Practitioners and procurement specialists.

Craig Stewart, Associate Nursing Director, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, chaired the NSQIG.

Mr Stewart said: "The hard work and valuable contributions from all stakeholders have resulted in the report that we have released today.

"Its recommendations pave the way for an integrated national approach to stoma care that harnesses data and digital tools to deliver best-value care and an improved quality of life for patients.

"We can transform how we deliver stoma care today and lay strong foundations for further future improvements."

Alice Macleod, Senior Nurse within NSS' National Procurement Division, said:

"This report has been long awaited. It is a crucial step towards achieving a 'Once For Scotland' stoma care model that maximises value, supports NHS colleagues and delivers more for patients."

**[ENDS]**

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## Notes to editors

### Notes to the Editor

- Stomas are created following 'ostomy' surgery, such as colostomy, ileostomy or urostomy
- Around 20,000 people in Scotland require stoma care support.
- NHS Scotland spends around £31million per year on stoma care, a figure that has risen by 65% over the preceding five years
- The National Stoma Quality Improvement Group report can be viewed and downloaded here. [INSERT LINK.](#)

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