



## A Summary of BSPED Guidance Documents

The British Society for Paediatric Endocrinology & Diabetes (BSPED) is a specialist society for professionals caring for children with endocrine disorders and/or diabetes mellitus. It is committed to providing excellence in the care of children with these disorders through acting as a stakeholder organisation and a national advisory body for other organisations and professions associated with the health care of children with endocrine disorders and/or diabetes mellitus.

The BSPED aims to encourage best practice through producing or endorsing a number of forms of best-practice documents. Where applicable, the BSPED also tries to harmonise its guidelines with other national and international guidance/guidelines, especially those with particular relevance to the UK healthcare system.

The key professionals who will benefit from these guidelines are medical staff (consultants, associate specialists, speciality doctors and speciality trainees), nursing staff (especially specialist nurses in endocrinology and/or diabetes) and other allied health professionals.

There are 5 forms of documentation through which this is achieved and these are summarised below:

### 1. BSPED Guidelines

These are developed guidelines which are commissioned from within the BSPED. However as the process for approved guideline development is extremely robust and can occur at a significant cost in terms of finance and time, the BSPED is now rarely supporting in-house development of such guidelines.

Where there is a requirement for a guideline to be developed, and it has been identified that no other organisation or society is seeking to develop such a guideline which is recognised as essential for the benefit of clinicians and patients in the UK, the BSPED may choose to commission such a document.

### 2. BSPED Standards and Endorsed Guidelines

The BSPED is a stakeholder for documents and standards developed by other accredited professional bodies such as the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) or the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), of which BSPED are stakeholders. These documents consist of endocrine standards where their key actions provide a framework for service commissioners and providers to plan and deliver effective services for Paediatric Endocrinology. They can be used to benchmark current services and develop quality indicators which will allow robust monitoring of specialised endocrine services across the U.K.

Endorsed guidelines that are produced by other professional bodies/societies which are reviewed by the BSPED and endorsed as best practice, are usually developed by a commissioned guideline development group, using robust methods including extensive literature review and process such as that described in the document [‘Setting Standards for Development of Clinical Guidelines in Paediatrics and Child Health’](#) developed by the RCPCH. These documents are usually put out to stakeholders and where invited, the BSPED will



advertise for stakeholder comment from its members prior to the finalisation and publishing of the guideline. These are then reviewed again by the clinical committee, and endorsed if acceptable for UK practice and reflect the Society's views on best practice for the majority of patients with that condition.

However, the BSPED emphasises that each patient should be considered as an individual in the context of their condition and other medication and therefore the readers' discretion is required in the application of their use. Every effort would have been made to ensure the factual accuracy of the contents but no liability can be accepted for any litigation, claims or complaints arising from the use of these guidelines.

### **3. BSPED Guidance Documents**

BSPED Guidance documents are more concise documents that have been developed by a group of expert clinicians identified by the BSPED Clinical Committee. These are usually commissioned when a pertinent issue facing the Paediatric Endocrine and Diabetes community requires identification of best practice for investigation, management and/or treatment. These may be developed using consensus of best practice, particularly where evidence for best practice is limited.

### **4. BSPED Position Statements**

BSPED Position statements are considered statements that are issued in a timely fashion by the BSPED Clinical Committee, in relation to issues that might be facing the paediatric and diabetes community, particularly where trends in management might have changed or are being scrutinised by the press. In some instances where a review of a larger issue is required, the BSPED clinical committee may commission a group of expert clinicians to draft a position statement that represents current best practice prior to committee approval.

### **5. BSPED Adopted patient information leaflets**

These documents are patient information leaflets that have been devised and used by recognised paediatric endocrine and diabetes centres or societies, which have been subsequently reviewed and approved by the BSPED clinical committee. These patient information leaflets must have met a basic standard for patient comprehension such as being written in '[Plain English](#)' as defined by the Plain English Campaign.