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The guidelines of the Royal College of Pathologists comply with the AGREE II standards for good quality clinical guidelines. The sections of this guideline that indicate compliance with each of the AGREE II standards are indicated in the table.

<b>AGREE standard</b>	<b>Section of guideline</b>
<b>Scope and purpose</b>	
1 The overall objective(s) of the guideline is (are) specifically described	Introduction
2 The health question(s) covered by the guideline is (are) specifically described	Introduction
3 The population (patients, public, etc.) to whom the guideline is meant to apply is specifically described	Foreword, Introduction
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	
4 The guideline development group includes individuals from all the relevant professional groups	Foreword
5 The views and preferences of the target population (patients, public, etc.) have been sought	Foreword
6 The target users of the guideline are clearly defined	Introduction
<b>Rigour of development</b>	
7 Systematic methods were used to search for evidence	Foreword
8 The criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described	Foreword
9 The strengths and limitations of the body of evidence are clearly described	Foreword
10 The methods for formulating the recommendations are clearly described	Foreword
11 The health benefits, side effects and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations	N/A
12 There is an explicit link between the recommendations and the supporting evidence	Throughout
13 The guideline has been externally reviewed by experts prior to its publication	Foreword
14 A procedure for updating the guideline is provided	Foreword
<b>Clarity of presentation</b>	
15 The recommendations are specific and unambiguous	Throughout
16 The different options for management of the condition or health issue are clearly presented	Throughout
17 Key recommendations are easily identifiable	Throughout

<b>Applicability</b>	
18 The guideline describes facilitators and barriers to its application	Foreword
19 The guideline provides advice and/or tools on how the recommendations can be put into practice	All appendices
20 The potential resource implications of applying the recommendations have been considered	Foreword
21 The guideline presents monitoring and/or auditing criteria	10
<b>Editorial independence</b>	
22 The views of the funding body have not influenced the content of the guideline	Foreword
23 Competing interest of guideline development group members have been recorded and addressed	Foreword

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