

## **Agenda Item 9**

### **Process of establishing BSSVD position on external guidelines**

#### Rationale

Evidence based clinical guidelines have a major role in harmonising clinical practices and thus improving patient care. All specialist societies play a crucial role in developing clinical guidelines. Peer reviewed and wide consensus based clinical guidelines are useful commissioning tools for the PCTs. It is acknowledged that many guidelines for the same clinical conditions may exist. While BSSVD has begun addressing the need for producing/adapting clinical guidelines somewhat more recently, it is undoubtedly the right way forward. A multi-speciality based Guideline Development Group now exists within BSSVD, which includes a lay person/patients' representative. Following is proposed towards the process of establishing BSSVD position on external guidelines and developing new guidelines for the consideration of the Council:

1. Guideline Development Group will be responsible for developing new guidelines on behalf of BSSVD
2. Guideline Development Group will be responsible for actively searching for relevant published guidelines. Following review, Guideline Development Group will recommend Council to endorse any relevant published guidelines for adopting within BSSVD.
3. All suggestions for new guideline development or review of relevant published guidelines will be referred to Guideline Development Group
4. Guideline Development Group and the co-ordinator will be accountable to the Council through the Chairperson.
5. Guideline Development Group will develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the functioning of the group