Appendix 5

Procedure for prescribing outside of National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Guidance

1. NICE provides guidance for the prescribing and use of ECT in England. Reference to the guidance should be made during all ECT procedures i.e. all referral, prescribing, delivery of treatment and monitoring of outcomes and side effects. It also gives recommendations for future research. Please find below a complementary, useful text in addition to this is:

- ECTAS standards make reference in two standards to NICE guidance and these should be adhered to: 4.48 (type3) **The patient is informed if they have been prescribed ECT outside of NICE guidelines** and 9.21 (type3) **There is a protocol for consultation between the ECT consultant and the referring psychiatrist in situations where ECT is prescribed outside of NICE guidelines**

- On each occasion where a patient is prescribed outside NICE guidance a second opinion should be sought and treatment course agreed. This would normally involve discussion between the referring psychiatrist and the ECT lead consultant or nominated deputy. This agreement should be regularly reviewed at an agreed frequency throughout the course of treatment

- Patients and where appropriate carers, should be informed that the patient is being treated outside NICE guidance and the rationale clearly explained. The patient views should be considered as with regular treatment referrals. All outcomes should be clearly documented within the patient’s health care record/ECT care plan