



Statement of Intent

This document should be considered to contain guidance only. It is not intended to replace the clinical judgement of the individual anaesthetist; the freedom to determine the most appropriate treatment for individual patients in a particular place at a specific moment should not be constrained by a rigid application of this guidance.

The document is presented as a collection of guidance chapters in a binder and each has been developed with reference to the circumstances which can generally be expected to prevail in each care area. It is the view of the Royal College of Anaesthetists that it must be the responsibility of the individual reader to take into account particular local circumstances when applying the recommendations of each chapter.

Every chapter within the guidance document has been prepared on the strength of the best information available at the time of writing; therefore, the user should take into account any information, research or other material which may have been published subsequently. Wherever practicable, chapters will be reviewed regularly and re-issued at intervals no greater

than five years from the date of first publication in this binder. Chapters will be reviewed on a rolling process and will be produced in a form that allows each to be removed as stand-alone guidance.

Whilst the College has endeavoured to ensure that each chapter is as current as possible at the time it was prepared, it can take no responsibility for matters arising from circumstances which may have changed, or information or material which may have become available subsequently.

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