



NHS Clinical Evaluation Team – Our Purpose

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team (CET) is focussed purely on Clinical quality, safety and value in reducing wastage. The team have gained credibility by allowing the clinicians to have a voice in understanding their clinical requirements, for the NHS by the NHS. The Clinical Evaluation Reports provide high quality, unbiased and trusted product comparisons. This output is a standalone product, created purely on the basis of the evaluation of products against NHS user requirements. We expect that, once created, these reports will be used in a number of contexts:

- **By Product Users:** As an aid to selecting the most appropriate product for high quality patient outcomes, to help inform product selection decisions, including understanding which products are, and are not, comparable.
- **By Product Suppliers:** As market intelligence, which informs them about the NHS Clinical requirements, to help understand how the NHS considers and evaluates their products based upon user requirements, how their products compare to the competition and encourage innovation and improvement.
- **By Product Purchasers:** Helping to inform economic purchasing decisions based upon user requirements, to ensure they are buying the right quality products more effectively.

The CET has made clear that Trusts are entitled to purchase any of the products on the NHS Supply Chain catalogue as they have all been properly procured and available for purchase notwithstanding the contents of their reports and no directions have been made by the CET to mandate or recommend the purchase of any particular product as a result of their reports.

In the absence of the CET reports, Trusts already have the ability to apply whatever criteria they see fit to assess their needs and place orders for products listed on the NHS Supply Chain catalogue. Given the large range of choice on this catalogue, the CET's reports are aimed at providing an additional tool to help Trusts who are responsible for using clinically appropriate products to act efficiently, effectively as well as comply with value for money and quality requirements, which may also include service and support, education and training should they be required at a local level.