



THE B12-ALLIANCE

CluB-12 is a not-for profit organisation of scientists and healthcare professionals which facilitates the sharing of knowledge and co-ordination of research into Vitamin B12. Within CluB-12, the B12- Alliance is the community of patient advocacy groups with relevant expertise and experience. The purpose of the B12-Alliance is to use their shared resources and combined expertise to raise awareness, share evidenced based research and inform the healthcare profession and public about B12 deficiency and about conditions where B12 deficiency is a consequence or risk factor.

The current members of the B12 Alliance are:

Pernicious Anaemia Society
The B12 Society
B12 Deficiency Support Group
HCU Network America
B12 Institute Netherlands
cluB-12

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PRESS RELEASE ON NICE GUIDELINES ON B12 DEFICIENCY DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT IN OVER 16s 6th March 2024

The B12-Alliance through cluB-12 and its individual members, contributed as stakeholders to the NICE Guidelines on Vitamin B12 Deficiency in over 16s.

The B12-Alliance endorses many of the recommendations in the guidelines and welcomes the opportunity that publication creates to raise awareness, increase knowledge and education for patients and health care professionals and improve the diagnosis and treatment of individuals who suffer from a B12 Deficiency for dietary or non-dietary reasons.

The members of the B12-Alliance appreciated the opportunity to be involved in the development of, and then feedback on, the draft document. The committee's respect for the stakeholders' views being evidenced by the many updates to the final version. We appreciate that there are still areas in the guidelines which the committee were unable to address due to lack of quality evidence.

As the B12-Alliance, we will continue to advocate for guidelines for the under 16s, the need to address Pernicious Anaemia as a condition specifically, and the need to replenish related vitamin and mineral deficiencies (often referred to as co-factors) such as folate and iron, which frequently coexist in those with B12 deficiency.

The symptoms and risk factors for B12 Deficiency are many and the consequences of severe deficiency are debilitating and life changing. Knowledge and awareness of symptoms and risks remains low within the healthcare profession, including primary care. We urge health care professionals and patients alike to use reputable resources like those of the British Medical Journal and resources of members of the B12-Alliance, to ensure they have a full understanding of both symptoms and risks.

Our Full Statement on the Guidelines can be found here: <https://www.club-12.org/b12-alliance>

