

**Written answer to your QWA HL11441 received from Lord Bethell, the Department of Health and Social Care**

Lord Bethell, the Department of Health and Social Care, has provided the following answer to your written parliamentary question (HL11441):

**Question:**

To ask Her Majesty's Government why Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is not listed on the topics covered by the NHS Clinical Knowledge summary; who authorised the decision to combine CFS with "Tiredness/fatigue in adults"; and when that change was made. (HL11441)

Tabled on: 14 December 2020

**Answer:**

**Lord Bethell:**

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Clinical Knowledge Summary *Tiredness/fatigue in adults* was published in October 2009 and there has been no change in the way it is titled over the subsequent period. NICE advises that the inclusion of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) within the tiredness/fatigue topic is to ensure that clinicians will consider CFS as a potential diagnosis as early as possible in the course of care of a person presenting with symptoms of tiredness and fatigue.

In 2007 NICE published the guideline, *Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (or encephalopathy): diagnosis and management*. This is currently being updated and a draft guideline is out for consultation with the final guidance expected in April 2021. The CFS diagnosis and management sections in the Clinical Knowledge Summary on Tiredness/Fatigue are kept in line with NICE guidance on CFS and will be updated following publication of the new guidance if necessary.

Date and time of answer: 29 Dec 2020 at 10:37.