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### **Renal anaemia - who gets it? and what should you do?**

Anaemia is a well known complication of chronic kidney disease (CKD). However screening for renal anaemia is not routinely carried out in those identified with CKD and placed on registers in primary care. Research shows that anaemia is present in the early stages (3B) of CKD and is under recognised and under treated.

NICE guidance for the management of anaemia of CKD was published in 2006 and has been embraced by specialist renal providers but is not high on the agenda in primary care.

Renal services need to build partnerships with their primary care colleagues to provide treatment of renal anaemia for people, as near to their homes as possible.

For example the treatment of iron deficiency anaemia with intravenous iron therapy can be delivered safely and efficiently in a variety of settings. The use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents (ESAs) is more complex and a shared care approach is preferable.

Screening for renal anaemia should become part of the Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) register and management of anaemia negotiated between primary and secondary healthcare providers.