

Table 10: Summary of Recommendations in Included Guideline

Recommendations and supporting evidence	Quality of evidence and strength of recommendations
NICE Guideline, 2017 ⁴	
<p>Evidence-based guideline regarding the management of cataracts before (i.e., referral), during, and after surgery. Recommendations relevant for this report pertained to the appropriateness, risks, and benefits of ISBCS, which is also known as bilateral simultaneous cataract surgery. These recommendations were informed by a review of the published randomized controlled trials.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Offer second-eye cataract surgery using the same criteria as for the first-eye surgery (p. 23).”⁴ 2. “Consider bilateral simultaneous cataract surgery for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people who are at low risk of ocular complications during and after surgery or • people who need to have general anaesthesia for cataract surgery but for whom general anaesthesia carries an increased risk of complications or distress (p. 23).”⁴ 3. “Discuss the potential risks and benefits of bilateral simultaneous cataract surgery with people, which should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the potential immediate visual improvement in both eyes • how it will not be possible to choose a different intraocular lens based on the outcome in the first eye • the risk of complications in both eyes during and after surgery that could cause long-term visual impairment • the likely need for additional support after the operation (p. 23).”⁴ <p>These recommendations were informed by an evidence review conducted by NICE⁴</p>	<p>The wording of recommendations reflects the recommendation strength: Offer/Advise: Strong recommendation (i.e., clear evidence of benefit) Consider: Evidence of benefit is less certain</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strong recommendation (i.e., clear evidence of benefit) 2. Evidence of benefit is less certain <p>3. No strength assigned</p> <p>The quality of the supporting evidence for these recommendations ranged from very low to high</p>

ISBCS = immediately sequential bilateral cataract surgery; NICE = National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.