

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES EVALUATION PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Topic selection and scoping

Mega Soft Patient Return Electrode

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation according to the principles of the NICE Equality scheme.

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the briefing note or during the Committee meeting, and, if so, what are they?

In the briefing note it was noted that the technology was considered to have particular advantages for people where cultural sensitivities exist surrounding the shaving of body hair, this can be an issue when using 'sticky pad' patient electrodes but is potentially circumvented by the used of the Mega Soft pad.

No other potential equality issues were identified at the committee meeting.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee?

The committee need to be advised of the usefulness of this technology for people who do not wish to shave body hair.

3. Does the scope need to highlight any potential equality issues? If so, how?

Inclusion as a special consideration is that although the device may have particular advantages for people who do not wish to shave body hair, it is suitable for all cultures, skin colours and types.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Mark Campbell

Date: 19 October 2011