

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## NICE guidelines

### Equality impact assessment

### Neonatal infection (update)

The impact on equality has been assessed during guidance development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

#### **1.0 Checking for updates and scope: before scope consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the draft scope for consultation)**

1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope, and, if so, what are they?

During development of the draft scope the following potential equality issue was identified:

Neonates born to vulnerable women. Women may be vulnerable for a variety of reasons, and vulnerability is defined in NICE CG110 (Pregnancy and complex social factors: a model for service provision for pregnant women with complex social factors). Examples of reasons why a woman might be vulnerable are because she is a victim of domestic violence, she speaks English as a second language (or not at all) or because of a pre-existing risk of inequality, such as age or disability (including cognitive disabilities such as learning difficulties). This group can have difficulty accessing services, may present late in pregnancy and may not present until in labour. This group also may have a lower rate of breast feeding which can be protective against neonatal infection. It is thought that considerations relevant to ensuring equality will apply for all of these reasons.

1.2 What is the preliminary view on the extent to which these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee? For example, if population groups, treatments or settings are excluded from the scope, are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

Positive outcomes are known to be more difficult to achieve in this population group and therefore specific recommendation in this group may need to be made to address this.

Completed by Developer: Katrina Penman

Date: 11/09/2018

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kay Nolan

Date: 12/09/2018