

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

GUIDELINES EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM SCOPING

As outlined in the guidelines manual NICE has a duty to take reasonable action to avoid unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunities. The purpose of this form is to document that equalities issues have been considered in reaching the final scope for a clinical guideline.

Taking into account **each** of the equality characteristics below the form needs:

- To confirm that equality issues have been considered at **every stage** of the scoping (from drafting the key clinical issues, stakeholder involvement and wider consultation to the final scope)
- Where groups are excluded from the scope, to comment on any likely implications for NICE's duties under equality legislation
- To highlight planned action relevant to equalities.

This form is completed by the National Collaborating Centre (NCC) Director and the Guideline Development Group (GDG) Chair **for each guideline** and submitted with the final scope for sign off by the Chair of the Guidelines Review Panel (GRP) and the lead from the Centre for Clinical Practice.

EQUALITY CHARACTERISTICS

Sex/gender

- Women
- Men

Ethnicity

- Asian or Asian British
- Black or black British
- People of mixed race
- Irish
- White British
- Chinese
- Other minority ethnic groups not listed

Disability

- Sensory
- Learning disability
- Mental health
- Cognitive
- Mobility
- Other impairment

Age¹

- Older people
- Children and young people
- Young adults

¹ Definitions of age groups may vary according to policy or other context.

Sexual orientation & gender identity

- Lesbians
- Gay men
- Bisexual people
- Transgender people

Religion and belief

Socio-economic status

Depending on policy or other context, this may cover factors such as social exclusion and deprivation associated with geographical areas (e.g. the Spearhead Group of local authorities and PCTs, neighbourhood renewal fund areas etc) or inequalities or variations associated with other geographical distinctions (e.g. the North/South divide, urban versus rural).

Other categories²

- Gypsy travellers
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Migrant workers
- Looked after children
- Homeless people

². This list is illustrative rather than comprehensive.

Guideline title: Opioids in palliative care: safe and effective prescribing of strong opioids for pain in palliative care of adults.

1. Have relevant equality issues been identified during scoping?

- Please state briefly any relevant issues identified and the plans to tackle them during development
- For example
 - if the effect of an intervention may vary by ethnic group, what plans are there to investigate this?
 - If a test is likely to be used to define eligibility for an intervention, how will the GDG consider whether all groups can complete the test?

No equalities issues have been identified.

2. If there are exclusions listed in the scope (for example, populations, treatments or settings) are these justified?

- Are the reasons legitimate? (they do not discriminate against a particular group)
- Is the exclusion proportionate or is there another approach?

Children (under 18 years) requiring strong opioid treatment are also excluded as their management is usually different.

3. Have relevant bodies and stakeholders been consulted?

- Have relevant bodies been consulted?
- Have comments from stakeholders that highlight potential for discrimination or promoting equality been considered in the final draft?

Yes. A provisional list of topics was discussed at the scoping workshop held on 14th April 2011. The list of topics was then revised based on feedback from the workshop and went out for consultation between 9 May to 3 June 2011.

There was two comments from stakeholders relating to equality issues which suggested that it might be appropriate to reduce the population age to 16years as most 16 and 17 year olds are managed as adults. The agreed definition NICE uses for adults is people over 18 years.

Signed:

John Graham

Damien Longson

Centre Director

GDG Chair

Date: June 2011

Date: June 2011

Approved and signed off:

Peter Robb

Judith Richardson

GRP Chair

CCP Lead

Date: July 2011

Date: July 2011