

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

EOS 2D/3D X-Ray Imaging System

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

Scope

- | |
|--|
| 1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (scoping workshop discussion, assessment subgroup discussion), and, if so, what are they? |
|--|

It was suggested that some rare genetic spinal disorders might be more easily diagnosed if the EOS system. Also it was noted without evidence that some genetic disorders may make some people more likely to suffer harmful effects from radiation exposure,

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

No specific examples of these disorders was given and no specific indication was given about the nature of any benefits was given. It wasn't felt that there was a basis for specific concern.
--

- | |
|--|
| 3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues? |
|--|

No

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the stakeholder list been made?

No additional issues have arisen from stakeholders.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Nick Crabb

Date: 29/07/2011

Diagnostics consultation document

1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?

General concern was expressed that some rare genetic spinal disorders might be more easily diagnosed if the EOS system were available, but no specific examples were uncovered where any specific benefits would occur. Therefore, genetic spinal disorders were not included as a specific equality consideration, but were included in the scope as part of the evaluation. Also it was noted without evidence that some genetic disorders may make some people more likely to suffer harmful effects from radiation exposure, but lacking any specific information about which disorders were relevant this could not be pursued. The conditions considered in this assessment can all potentially cause disability, but people with other disabilities are not at a specific disadvantage except as noted below.

2. Have any other equality issues been raised in the second assessment subgroup meeting (if held) and in the evidence assessment and analysis report, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No second meeting was held.

3. Have any other equality issues been identified by the Committee, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No other issues were identified.

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

No specific barriers were noted other than the fact that the machine images vertically which limits its use to people who can stand or sit. Some of the imaging benefits derive from weight-bearing imaging and might not apply to people who cannot stand. Existing X-ray equipment would have to be used for some patients who must be imaged horizontally.

5. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable.

6. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the diagnostics consultation document, and, if so, where?

Section 9 discusses equalities and section 6.1 records the Committee's consideration of rare genetic disorders.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Nick Crabb

Date: 29/07/2011

Diagnosics guidance document

1. Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No additional issues were raised.

2. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

No.

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable.

4. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the diagnostics guidance document, and, if so, where?

Section 9 discusses equalities and section 6.1 records the Committee's consideration of rare genetic disorders.

Approved by Centre or Programme Director (name): Mirella Marlow

Date: 29/07/2011