

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### **Fluorouracil plasma monitoring: the My5-FU assay for guiding dose adjustment in patients receiving fluorouracil chemotherapy by continuous infusion**

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

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

All people with cancer are covered by the disability provision of the equality act from the point of diagnosis. People who may be at the greatest risk of 5-FU toxicity include people with impaired liver function, people with impaired renal function, people whose body surface area is outside the standard range for dosing 5-FU, and those who have a less favourable performance status (including older people) prior to commencing chemotherapy. These groups may also be covered by the disability provision of the equality act.

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

The level of benefit may be different in people with impaired liver function, people with impaired renal function, people whose body surface area is outside the standard range for dosing 5-FU, and people with a less favourable performance status (including older people) who may be undertreated in current practice.

This should be considered in the assessment and by the Committee when making decisions. This may provide an opportunity to promote equality.

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

It was noted that use of My5-FU may be of particular benefit to people with impaired liver function, people with impaired renal function, people whose body surface area is outside the standard range for dosing 5-FU, and people with a less favourable performance status, including older people.

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 stakeholders have been identified.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Nick Crabb .

**Date:** 10/12/2013