

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

Tests for rapidly identifying bloodstream bacteria and fungi (LightCycler SeptiFast Test MGRADE, Sepsitest and IRIDICA BAC BSI assay)

Consultation

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| 1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how? |
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<p>During scoping it was identified that bloodstream infection may be a particular risk for neonates, older people, people who are immunocompromised and pregnant women. Additionally, people with cancer are also at risk of neutropenic sepsis.</p>

<p>It was also identified that the volume of blood required for a sample may make the molecular tests less suitable for testing in neonatal and paediatric patients.</p>
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<p>When developing its recommendations, the Committee considered the clinical effectiveness of the tests in the at risk subgroups where data were available. It noted that there was insufficient evidence to determine whether the tests were clinically effective in children and neonates and wished to encourage further research in these populations. The Committee also noted that the tests may be less suitable for use in neonates and children and encouraged further research exploring the impact of using lower volumes of blood on the sensitivity of the tests in these populations.</p>
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| 2. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the diagnostics assessment report, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these? |
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No other potential equality issues were raised.

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

No other potential equality 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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

No.

5. Is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No.

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

No.

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

The Committee's considerations of the potential equality issues noted during scoping are described in sections 5.17 and 5.22 of the diagnostics consultation document.

Approved by Programme Director (name): Mirella Marlow

Date: 18/09/2015

Diagnostics 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 potential equality issues were raised during consultation.

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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

The recommendations did not change after consultation.

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

The recommendations did not change after consultation.

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

The recommendations did not change after consultation.

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

The Committee's considerations of the potential equality issues noted during scoping are described in sections 5.17 and 5.22 of the guidance document.

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

Date: 24/11/2015