

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

Crohn's disease: Assays for therapeutic monitoring of TNF inhibitors (LISA-TRACKER ELISA kits, TNF α - Blocker ELISA kits, Promonitor ELISA kits, and Shikari ELISA kits)

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?

During the scoping workshop pregnant women with Crohn's disease receiving TNF inhibitor treatment were identified as a subgroup for whom therapeutic monitoring of TNF inhibitors may have added benefit over other patients with Crohn's disease receiving TNF inhibitor treatment.

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

During the assessment subgroup meeting, specialist committee members noted that a pregnant woman with Crohn's disease may want to limit use of TNF inhibitor in the third trimester if they are in remission in order to reduce the levels of TNF inhibitor in the newborn baby. If the patient is not in remission, then treatment with TNF inhibitor is continued as the risk of disease relapse is of greater risk to the mother and foetus than the use of TNF inhibitors. Overall, specialist committee members also noted that the management of Crohn's disease in pregnant women, including the use of therapeutic monitoring of TNF inhibitor, does not differ substantially from other people with Crohn's disease, and that the clinical outcomes would not differ between pregnant women and others. Therefore, it is proposed that pregnant women do not need assessing as a subgroup, as the results of the

assessment based on a general population would apply equally to pregnant women.

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

Pregnant women are noted in the section on equalities.

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?

None

Approved by Programme Director (name): ...Mirella Marlow.....

Date: 20 October 2014