

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

**Biomarker tests to help diagnose preterm labour in
women with intact membranes**

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?
<p>Pregnancy and maternity are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Children born before 37 weeks gestation are at increased risk of developing disabilities which would lead to them being protected under the Act.</p> <p>Transgender men may also become pregnant and it was noted that the use of biomarker tests to help diagnose preterm labour would apply equally to pregnant women and pregnant transgender men.</p>
2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the committee?
These potential equality issues are considered to be functions of the clinical condition and not the technologies under assessment.
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

Approved by Associate Director (name): Mark Campbell

Date: 10 July 2017