

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

SeHCAT for diagnosing bile acid diarrhoea

Consultation

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

Potential equality issues were discussed both in the scoping workshop 22 October 2020 and in the assessment subgroup meeting 4 November 2020.

The following were identified as potential equality issues relating to the condition:

- People with chronic diarrhoea may be classified as having a disability and therefore be protected under the Equality Act 2010. They may also need reasonable adjustments at work.
- IBS is twice as common in women as in men. It may be that the prevalence distribution of bile acid diarrhoea follows a similar pattern.
- Symptoms of bile acid diarrhoea often first appear between the age of 20 and 30 years.

The following were identified as potential equality issues relating to the testing:

- Less people from black, Asian and minority ethnic groups than expected are seen for investigation of bile acid diarrhoea.
- People who are pregnant, breast feeding or considering maternity may need to delay attending the diagnostic test because the test involves exposure to radiation.
- The marketing authorisation for SeHCAT states that there is no paediatric dosage form or clinical experience of the use of SeHCAT in children. The same dosage as in adults is used. A careful assessment of risk/benefit ratio should be done before use of the product in children.

Because the safety of using SeHCAT for children is not clear, the scope of the assessment was limited to adults. The evidence on the clinical effectiveness of SeHCAT in adults was overall very limited and population characteristics in the small studies that were found were poorly reported. There was insufficient data to conduct any subgroup analyses. The committee recommended further research on the clinical effectiveness of SeHCAT.

2. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the diagnostics assessment report, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No other potential equality issues were raised in the diagnostics assessment report.

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

The following was identified as a potential equality issue relating to the testing and treatment:

- Some people may in general find it difficult to swallow pills and so they may have difficulties swallowing the SeHCAT capsule or colesevelam tablets for treating bile acid diarrhoea.

Limited evidence was found on the tolerability of treatment. The committee's recommendations for further research on the clinical effectiveness of SeHCAT included tolerability of treatment.

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?

Not applicable.

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 equality issues have been described in the diagnostics consultation document sections 4.1 (reasonable adjustments at work) and 4.7 (tolerability of treatment). The committee's research recommendations are described in section 5 of the diagnostics consultation document.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Rebecca Albrow

Date: 5 July 2021

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 other 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 equality issues have been described in the diagnostics guidance document sections 4.2 (reasonable adjustments at work) and 4.6 (tolerability of treatment). The committee's research recommendations are described in section 5 of the diagnostics guidance document.

Approved Associate Director (name): Rebecca Albrow

Date: 10 September 2021