NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Diagnostics Assessment Programme

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

PlGF-based testing to help diagnose suspected preterm pre-eclampsia

# Consultation

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

The following potential equality issues were identified during scoping:

* Pregnant women who have pre-existing conditions such as autoimmune disease, chronic kidney disease or diabetes may be at higher risk of developing pre-eclampsia.
* Women of African and Caribbean family backgrounds may be at higher risk of severe adverse pregnancy outcomes.
* Levels of PlGF may differ according to ethnicity and maternal weight.

The draft guidance recommendations state that women at higher risk of severe adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as women from African, Asian or Caribbean family backgrounds, may particularly benefit from PLGF-based testing, to highlight that adoption of testing may help to reduce inequalities.

1. 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.

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

One committee member commented that women of African, Asian and Caribbean family backgrounds had a higher risk of pre-eclampsia. The guidance recommendations highlight that women at higher risk of severe adverse pregnancy outcomes may particularly benefit from PLGF-based testing, to highlight that adoption of testing may help to reduce inequalities.

No other potential equality issues were identified by the committee.

1. 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

1. 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

1. 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?

N/A

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

Recommendation 1.2 states that women at higher risk of severe adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as women from African, Asian or Caribbean family backgrounds, may particularly benefit from PLGF-based testing, to highlight that adoption of testing may help to reduce inequalities. Section 3.1 of the diagnostics consultation document summarises the committee’s discussion about women of African, Asian and Caribbean family backgrounds having a higher risk of pre-eclampsia and that PlGF-based testing may be particularly beneficial for higher risk groups.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Rebecca Albrow

**Date:** 17/03/2022

# 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

1. 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?

No

1. 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?

No

1. 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?

N/A

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

Recommendation 1.2 states that women at higher risk of severe adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as women from African, Asian or Caribbean family backgrounds, may particularly benefit from PLGF-based testing, to highlight that adoption of testing may help to reduce inequalities. Section 3.1 of the diagnostics guidance document summarises the committee’s discussion about women of African, Asian and Caribbean family backgrounds having a higher risk of pre-eclampsia and that PlGF-based testing may be particularly beneficial for higher risk groups.

**Approved by Centre or Programme Director (name):**Rebecca Albrow

**Date:** 17/05/2022