

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

Intraoperative tests (RD-100i OSNA system and Metasin test) for detecting sentinel lymph node metastases in breast cancer

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?

The prevalence of breast cancer is significantly more common in women than in men. Breast cancer presents a similar pathology in men as in women so the scoping workshop considered that it is likely that the CK-19 biomarker could be detected in both men and women, although it is unlikely that there will be published evidence in male breast cancer patients owing to breast cancer being a relatively rare cancer in men. The 'information for use' document for the RD-100i OSNA system referred to 'patients' as the relevant population and therefore, did not distinguish between men and women.

People with a diagnosis of cancer are protected under the Equality Act 2010 from the point of diagnosis.

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

The Committee will consider relevant groups with protected characteristics when developing recommendations.

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): Nick Crabb

Date: 31/07/2013