

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Osteoporosis

The impact on equality has been assessed during guidance development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

2.0 Checking for updates and scope: after consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the revised scope)

2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during consultation, and, if so, what are they?

- Age – the following additional points were identified during consultation
 - It was noted that there is a significant group of patients who present to medical hospitals wards and fall outside the remit of the Fracture Liaison Service (FLS). These include older people admitted predominately with vertebral and pubic rami fractures, who are high risk of further fragility fractures and special recommendations should be considered for these patients.
 - It was also noted that treatment compliance (the way the medication is taken) and treatment persistence (continuing with the medication long-term) are both important for older people, particularly those with swallowing problems, polypharmacy and those with cognitive issues.
- Disability
 - There was a suggestion that the information and support needs for people with cognitive impairment, a learning disability, autism or any other disability needs a separate review question.
- Gender reassignment – no additional issues raised during consultation
- Pregnancy and maternity – no additional issues raised during consultation
- Race
 - There was a suggestion that women from an Asian background had a problem accessing care related to a language barrier. This group was more likely to not be able to speak English and therefore would need to

attend with one of their children or a partner.

- Religion or belief – no additional issues raised during consultation
- Sex – the only issue raised during consultation is listed in section on race
- Sexual orientation – no issues raised during consultation
- Socio-economic factors – no issues raised during consultation
- Other definable characteristics:
 - Difficulties in access was raised in relation to people who live far away from scanners. This is likely to be exacerbated for people who do not have the money to travel.

2.2 Have any changes to the scope been made as a result of consultation to highlight potential equality issues?

An additional question was added to the scope on the information and support needs of adults who are at risk of fragility fracture or who have osteoporosis and cognitive impairment, a learning disability or autism. The guideline will also cross refer to the NICE guideline on Decision making and mental capacity (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG108>).

No other changes were made.

With regard to the issue relating people falling outside the remit of the Fracture Liaison Service the scope aims to cover all settings where NHS-funded care or social care is provided or commissioned. The committee will consider making separate recommendations for older people where the evidence and their experience permits.

The issue relating to treatment compliance and persistence will be addressed in the scope as the outcome treatment adherence in the evidence reviews. It will also be considered as part of the risk reassessment as this is believed to help improve adherence. The committee will consider making specific recommendations if the evidence allows. General recommendations related to supporting adherence are not included in this guideline as they are covered by the NICE guideline on Medicines adherence (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg76>).

Generic recommendations that may help alleviate the language barrier are covered in NICE's guideline on Patient experience in adult NHS services (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/CG138>) and the NICE guideline on Shared

decision making (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng197>). Encouraging people to access medical services is beyond the scope of this guideline.

Difficulties in accessing treatment because of distance to scanners will be considered indirectly as part of the resource impact of recommendations. However, other aspects of service delivery are beyond the scope of this guideline.

2.3 Have any of the changes made led to a change in the primary focus of the guideline which would require consideration of a specific communication or engagement need, related to disability, age, or other equality consideration?

If so, what is it and what action might be taken by NICE or the developer to meet this need? (For example, adjustments to committee processes, additional forms of consultation)

No

Updated by Developer: Carlos Sharpin

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Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

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