NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

**Natalizumab and Tyruko (natalizumab biosimilar) for treating highly active relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis after at least one disease modifying therapy [ID6369]**

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation according to the principles of the NICE Equality scheme.

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| 1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (draft scope consultation and scoping workshop discussion), and, if so, what are they?
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| At scoping consultation it was raised that:* multiple sclerosis affects 2 to 3 times more women than men. Therefore, a negative recommendation has the potential to disproportionately negatively impact women.
* a negative recommendation would disproportionately negatively impact younger people as natalizumab offers fewer restrictions on family planning than other treatments for multiple sclerosis.
* natalizumab is contraindicated for patients with increased risk for opportunistic infections, including immunocompromised patients but it is likely to be safer than other treatments for multiple sclerosis in this population.
* because natalizumab has the potential for home administration, a negative recommendation would disproportionately affect people who live far from a treatment centre, particularly those for whom travelling is difficult, or have more limited access to transport.
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| 1. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee?
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| The prevalence of a condition, including the proportion of people with the condition who are female, cannot be accounted for in a technology appraisal.NICE can only make a recommendation within the marketing authorisation of a technology. Use of natalizumab in the population for whom it is contraindicated would be considered off label. The committee should consider the benefits of natalizumab compared with other available treatments for the groups of people highlighted in the comments in section 1. |

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| 1. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?
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| No |

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| 1. 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?
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| No |

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** …Richard Diaz ……… **Date:** 25 Mar 2024