

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

**STA Nemolizumab for treating moderate to severe atopic
dermatitis in people 12 and over**

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

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?

Consultees noted that the use of the Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI) assessment tool may underestimate signs and symptoms of atopic dermatitis (for example, skin lesions) in people with darker skin tones.

They also noted the impact of atopic dermatitis may be increased for some people with darker skin tones because of the longer-term effects on skin pigmentation after inflammation has resolved.

The consultees noted that the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) to assess quality of life may not account for anxiety and depression.

One consultee suggested that people with atopic dermatitis who belong to lower socioeconomic group may be less likely to receive treatment with a JAK inhibitor,

One consultee noted that some neurodiverse children may struggle with using certain treatments because of sensory issues and may need more support to access it or the treatment may be unsuitable.

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

The experiences of all people with the condition will be taken into account by the appraisal committee.

The committee should take into account skin colour and how this could affect the assessment of the severity of atopic dermatitis and response to treatment.

3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

The scope has been updated to consider skin colour subgroups if the evidence allows.

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the matrix been made?

Not applicable.

Approved by Associate Director (name): ...Emily Crowe

Date: 12/07/2024