

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

Cladribine for treating relapsing multiple sclerosis [ID6263]

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation 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?

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 cladribine offers fewer restrictions on family planning than other treatments for multiple sclerosis.
- the mode of delivery (given for 1 week a year and minimal monitoring) means cladribine is useful for some groups of people such as those who are insecurely housed, homeless, members of the travelling community and those who find travel more difficult such as people with lower incomes or disability.

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

The prevalence of a condition, including the proportion of people with the condition who are female, cannot be accounted for in a technology appraisal.

The committee should consider the benefits of cladribine compared with other available treatments for the groups of people highlighted in the comments in section 1.

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): ...Richard Diaz.....

Date: 22 April 2024