

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

**Delgocitinib for treating moderate to severe chronic hand eczema
[ID6408]**

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 consultation, stakeholders identified the following issues.

1. Diagnosis and assessment of symptoms of chronic hand eczema may be more difficult in people with darker skin tones.
2. Alitretinoin is associated with a teratogenicity risk – provision of delgocitinib could provide women of childbearing age with an alternative option for chronic hand eczema treatment.
3. Chronic hand eczema may disproportionately affect patients who have co-morbidities requiring antiviral drugs since existing treatments for chronic hand eczema (i.e. immunosuppressants) are limited and may affect the efficacy of antivirals.
4. An intrinsically thinner stratum corneum and higher density of eccrine glands means that Asian people may have skin that is more sensitive to exogenous chemicals.
5. There is regional variation in diagnostic and assessment tools or specialist services within the UK.
6. Chronic hand eczema disproportionately impacts people involved in “wet work” – this may include trade workers and people who work in the service industry, healthcare industry or education

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

NICE considers appraisal technologies within their marketing authorisation for the whole population. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to submit

evidence on health inequalities. As part of the technology appraisal, the committee will consider the impact of recommendations on people with protected characteristics in conjunction with the principles that guide the development of NICE guidance and standards including the aim to reduce health inequalities, with the following caveats:

1. The committee must follow the processes and methods set out in the NICE health technology evaluation manual and are unable to divert from these methods and processes for individual evaluations or they will risk introducing further inequalities.
2. In accordance with NICE's [social value judgement](#) principles, no priority is given based on individuals' income, social class, position in life or social roles in guidance developed for the NHS.

The committee will consider whether its recommendations could have a different impact on people protected by the equality legislation than on the wider population.

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

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

The background section of the scope has been amended to highlight that chronic hand eczema may present differently on people with different skin tones.

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.....

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