

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Health Technology Evaluation

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### Teprotumumab for treating thyroid eye disease [ID6432]

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?

Stakeholders raised issues during the scoping stage the following:

- The Clinical Activity Score (CAS) is the standard tool for assessing disease activity in thyroid eye disease (TED). However, several limitations of CAS were acknowledged, notably its reliance on subjective, visual assessments, which may be influenced by the patient's skin colour and ethnicity, potentially leading to bias. There is a risk that CAS assessment of people with black or brown skin does not reflect their clinical disease activity level (i.e. they may be assessed as having inactive disease when they have clinically active disease), and as such a risk of them being excluded from accessing teprotumumab due to their skin colour.
- Teprotumumab can be difficult to administer in diabetic patients due to hyperglycaemia side effect so a multidisciplinary approach with endocrinology involvement is needed to facilitate safe administration in this subgroup.
- The disease burden is disproportionately higher among females compared to males.

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

- Potential bias in assessing activity of TED in people with black or brown skin using CAS: where relevant and appropriate, the committee may consider whether its recommendations could have a different impact on people protected characteristics compared with the wider population.
- Administration of teprotumumab in people with diabetes: where appropriate and relevant, issues related to implementation may be considered by the committee in its deliberations. But this is not an equality issue that can be addressed by the NICE technology appraisal process.
- Higher TED incidence in women: the prevalence of a condition in different groups based on gender cannot be addressed in a TA. However, where appropriate, the committee may consider relevant issues related to it in its decision making.

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

- The draft scope is updated to highlight the limitations of CAS and the risks of using it to assess eligibility for treatment following the scoping workshop and consultation.

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):** Ross Dent  
**Date:** 24/20/2024