

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

Blinatumomab with chemotherapy for consolidation treatment of Philadelphia-chromosome-negative CD19-positive B-precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia with no minimal residual disease

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?

During consultation, professional organisation highlighted that the evaluation procedure should consider whether age-restrictions are justifiable. It noted that the key clinical trial for blinatumomab applies an upper age limit, but standard care approach is to individualise treatment decisions based on biologic, personal and clinical parameters. Therefore, the evaluation should reflect and incorporate the complexity of real-life assessments and not necessarily restrict to a clinical trial defined criteria when determining benefit.

It also highlighted that a small group of patients who will not be evaluable for minimal residual disease (MRD), for a multitude of factors, from sample failure or lack of an applicable molecular/flow based MRD assay. These patients should be considered within the provisions of the final assessment and care should be taken to not structurally discriminate against this subgroup on the basis of technical factors related to MRD test assessments.

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

The committee will make decisions based on the evidence presented by the submitting company. It will consider evidence for specific groups, including age or those not evaluable for MRD, in its decision making.

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): Ross Dent

Date: 20/06/2024