

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

STA Bendamustine in combination with rituximab for the first-line treatment of indolent non-Hodgkin's lymphoma

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?

Yes. It was raised during the scoping workshop and the draft scope consultation that bendamustine is particularly helpful for older patients and those with more comorbidities as its toxicity profile means it is well tolerated. This may allow more effective treatment to be delivered to older people and some patients who would not previously have been considered fit enough for combination therapy.

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

Choice of treatment is influenced by the general health and comorbidities of the patient and these, in turn, are related to age. However, age itself does not determine choice of treatment.

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

No changes to the draft remit or draft scope are required.

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?

No additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues have been identified during the scoping process.

Approved by Associate Director (name): ...Janet Robertson.....

Date: 19 November 2012