

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Medical technologies evaluation programme

### Equality impact assessment: Topic selection and scoping

#### Digital health technologies to help manage symptoms of psychosis and prevent relapse

The impact on equality has been assessed during this assessment according to the principles of the [NICE Equality scheme](#).

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (scoping workshop discussion), and, if so, what are they?

The following were identified as potential equality issues relating to the condition:

- The incidence and prevalence of psychosis are higher in deprived communities.
- A significantly higher percentage of black men are diagnosed with psychotic disorder than white.
- Ethnic minorities are significantly less engaged with psychosis treatment services than white people.

The following were identified as potential equality issues relating to the technology:

- Digital health technologies to help manage symptoms of psychosis and prevent relapse are accessed via a mobile phone, tablet, or computer. People may need regular access to a device with internet access to use the technologies.
- People with visual, hearing, or cognitive impairment; problems with manual dexterity; a learning disability; or who are unable to read or understand health-related information (including people who cannot

read English) or neurodivergent people may need additional support to use digital health interventions.

- People's ethnic, religious, and cultural background may affect their views of digital health interventions

People facing social inequality and disadvantage, discrimination and social exclusion are at higher risk of mental health problems. Psychosis can significantly affect people's ability to cope with daily living activities. Under the Equality Act 2010, a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to do typical day-to-day activities. Age, disability, race and religion or belief are protected characteristics under the Equality Act (2010).

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

- The potential equality issues will be considered by committee during decision making.

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

- The potential equality issues have been included in the equalities section of the scope.

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 additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues have been identified during the scoping process.

**Approved by MTAC Chair (name):** Jacob Brown

**Date:** 04/09/2023