

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment

IPG412 Drainage, irrigation and fibrinolytic therapy (DRIFT) for post-haemorrhagic hydrocephalus in preterm infants

The impact on equality has been assessed during guidance development according to the principles of the NICE Equality scheme.

Scoping

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (development of the scope or discussion at the Committee meeting), and, if so, what are they?

Disability – Currently, there are no effective interventions shown to improve outcomes for pre-term infants with post-haemorrhagic ventricular dilatation who are likely to suffer severe cognitive and motor disabilities. They are likely to be considered disabled and would be covered by the equalities legislation. A treatment which could prevent these outcomes would, therefore, significantly alter the quality of life in these infants.

The following are related specifically to risk of preterm birth and may therefore be related to the occurrence of post-haemorrhagic ventricular dilatation.

Ethnicity – Black and Asian ethnic mothers in the UK may be more likely to give birth to a preterm infant

Age – Mothers younger than 16 or older than 35 may be more likely to give birth to a preterm infant

Socioeconomic status – Low socioeconomic status may contribute to preterm births (lack of prenatal care, use of tobacco, poor nutrition immediately before and during pregnancy may increase the risk of preterm labour).

2.	What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee? If there are exclusions listed in the scope (for example, populations, treatments or settings), are these justified?
This was not thought to have an impact on the assessment of the procedure. No exclusions were applied.	

3.	Has any change to the scope (such as additional issues raised during the Committee meeting) been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?
No	

Consultation

1.	Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?
The committee was made aware by the lay member of IPAC that reporting of composite outcomes (of death and disability) alone can be perceived to be devaluing members of the public and carers of disabled individuals."	

2.	Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the overview, specialist adviser questionnaires or patient commentary, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?
No	

3.	Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the Committee, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?
No	

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access a technology or intervention compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

No

5. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to promote equality?

Not applicable

6. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the consultation document, and, if so, where?

Section 1.1 of the draft guidance stated: "Outcomes should include death and disability in the long-term: these should be reported separately"

Final interventional procedures document

1. Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No

2. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access a technology or intervention compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

No

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable

4. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final interventional procedures document, and, if so, where?

Section 1.1 of the guidance states: "Outcomes should include death and disability in the long-term: these should be reported separately"

Approved Programme Director: Mirella Marlow

Date: 22 September 2011