

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment

IPG645 Endoscopic ablation for an anal fistula

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

Briefing

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

In England, the incidence of anal fistula is 18.4 per 100,000/year. A study that was published in 2007 and looked at four different European countries, including England, found that there were between one and three cases of anal fistulae for every 10,000 people.

Gender: anal fistulae are more common in men (twice as likely to be affected) with peak around 40 years of age.

Disability: people with anal fistulae are limited by pain and the management of their condition. If the condition is severe and has a significant and long-standing effect on their ability to carry out activities of daily living, they may be considered to have a disability. People with diseases that increase the risk of anal fistulae (for example, Crohn's disease) may also be considered to have a disability if the condition has similar effects on daily living. Disability is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act (VAAFT for treating anal fistulae MIB102). Among people with Crohn's disease, the incidence of anal fistulae may be as high as 30-50%. Up to 30% of people with HIV will also develop an anal fistula.

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 brief (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 brief (such as additional issues raised during the committee meeting) been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the committee meeting, and, if so, have changes to the stakeholder list been made?

No

Kevin Harris

Approved by Programme Director and Clinical Advisor

Date: 25/02/2019

Consultation

1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the briefing process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how?

No specific data relating to potential issues mentioned earlier was identified in the literature presented in the overview.

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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

No

5. Is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

No

Kevin Harris

Approved by Programme Director and Clinical Advisor

Date: 25/02/2019

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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

Not applicable

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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| 5. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final interventional procedures document, and, if so, where? |
| No |

Mark Campbell

Approved by Acting Programme Director

Date: 5 March 2019