

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment

IPG678 Deep brain stimulation for refractory epilepsy

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?

Most incidence studies show that epilepsy is more common in males than females.

There is a very high incidence of epilepsy in the first year of life and in early childhood, with a relative decrease in adolescence. Incidence is at its lowest between the ages of 20 and 40 and steadily increases after age 50, with the greatest increase seen in those over age 80.

Some people with epilepsy may be covered by the Equality Act 2010 if their condition has had a substantial adverse impact on normal day to day activities for over 12 months or is likely to do so.

People from a socioeconomically deprived background are at higher risk of developing epilepsy.

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: 10/06/2020

Consultation

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

Some data presented in the overview came from children under 18 years old. No specific data relating to the other 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?

At consultation a consultee stated they were “keen to point out the potential life changing utility of DBS in severe refractory epilepsy in the paediatric setting”

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

The committee addressed the above point in a committee comment:

3.6 The committee was informed that the devices used for this procedure only have regulatory approval for use in adults.

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: 10/06/2020

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

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

No

Mirella Marlow

Programme Director

Date: 11/06/2020