

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Medical technologies evaluation programme

Equality impact assessment: Guidance development

MT318 Neuropad for detecting early diabetic peripheral neuropathy

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

Medical technology consultation document

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| <p>1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how?</p> |
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<p>Potential equality issues concerning the problems individuals with cognitive impairment or communication difficulties have in accessing existing tests were covered in detail by the Committee lead and equalities expert, and discussed by the Committee. It was decided that no action was required.</p>

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| <p>2. Have any other potential equality issues been highlighted in the sponsor's submission, or patient organisation questionnaires, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?</p> |
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<p>N/A</p>

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| <p>3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?</p> |
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<p>N/A</p>

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology 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?

There is the potential that individuals with cognitive impairment or communication difficulties may be denied a possible diagnostic test for DPN

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 obligations to promote equality?

No

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

Yes

Approved by Associate Director: Mark Campbell

Date: 20 November 2017

Medical technology guidance document

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

No new issues were raised during consultation. The same issues were discussed about potential benefits to vulnerable people and those unable to engage with existing tests.

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 the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

The wording of the recommendations was amended but the meaning of the recommendation did not change after consultation and so there were no changes to the proposed access to the technology.

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?

The wording of the recommendations was amended but the meaning of the recommendation did not change after consultation.

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?

The wording of the recommendations was amended but the meaning of the recommendation did not change after consultation

5. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the medical technology guidance document, and, if so, where?

Yes for example sections 4.4 and 4.5 describes the committee's recognition of the potential benefits of this technology to patients who have difficulty engaging or accessing foot testing clinics. Section 4.10 also outlines some potential research suggestions including a community-based study which involves vulnerable patient groups who have difficulty accessing current care.

Approved by Programme Director: Mark Campbell

Date: 24 August 2018