

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Medical technologies evaluation programme

Equality impact assessment: Guidance development

myCOPD for managing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

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

Medical technology consultation document

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

No equality issues were raised during the scoping process. During the draft scope consultation, it was highlighted that myCOPD is only accessible to people who have access to and are able to use devices that connect to the internet and is available in English only. People who are unable to read or understand health related text, including those unable to read English, may not be suitable for using the technology. Also access to electronic devices, access to the internet and user engagement with the technology may be more difficult for the people in deprived communities. The accessibility of the app was included in the equality consideration in the scope.

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?

No further equality issues were highlighted in the sponsor's submission or patient questionnaires.

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

No further equality issues have been highlighted by the committee.

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?

No.

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?

Not applicable.

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

The committee considerations surrounding this equality consideration can be found in section 4.8 of the draft guidance.

Approved by Associate Director: Anastasia Chalkidou

Date: 28/3/2022

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?

The possibility that the use of myCOPD may increase health inequality due to accessibility issues was raised during the consultation. The clinical experts highlighted that people are not able to use the device if they do not have a compatible smart device to access the myCOPD app. MyCOPD may also not be suitable for people who do not speak English, however, alternative treatment options are available in these cases. These are described in section 4.6 of the medical technologies guidance document.

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 recommendations have not changed after consultation.

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 recommendations have not changed 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 recommendations have not changed after consultation.

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

The committee considerations surrounding this equality consideration can be found in section 4.6 of the draft guidance.

Approved by Associate Director: Anastasia Chalkidou

Date: 29/3/2022