

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Medical technologies evaluation programme

Equality impact assessment: Topic selection and scoping

MyCOPD for self-management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

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

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the topic briefing note or during selection, and, if so, what are they?

COPD is most common in people over 50 years. Men tend to be at higher risk than women. Age and sex are protected characteristics under the Equality Act. MyCOPD is only accessible to people who have access to and are able to use devices that connect to the internet. MyCOPD may be unsuitable for people with visual or cognitive impairment, problems with manual dexterity or learning disabilities. Disability is protected characteristics under the Equality Act.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the committee?

The committee will want to consider their recommendations with due regard to these groups.

3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

The issues noted in section 1 have been included in the special considerations section of the decision problem.

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

During the consultation, stakeholders noted that 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. Disability and race are protected characteristics under the Equality Act. COPD is linked with deprivation and is more common in the most deprived communities. Access to electronic devices, access to the internet and user engagement with the technology may be more difficult for the people in deprived communities.

Approved by Associate Director: Joanne Holden

Date: 19 September 2019