

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Medical technologies evaluation programme

### Equality impact assessment: Guidance development

#### MT476 UroShield for preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections

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?

There were no equality issues associated with the use of UroShield raised during the scoping process. However, several equality considerations about the characteristics of the population were noted. The committee considered that UroShield may most benefit people with high risk of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (UTIs). High risk of catheter-associated UTIs is not clearly defined. However, some equality factors related to increased risk of catheter-associated UTIs are female sex and comorbidities such as neurogenic bladder, diabetes, and multiple sclerosis. UTIs are also a noted cause of morbidity and antibiotic use in older people. The committee considered that clinical judgement and patient selection criteria are valuable for identifying people who may most benefit from the use of UroShield. The committee considerations surrounding these equality considerations can be found in section 4.8 of the draft guidance.

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 organisation questionnaire.

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

The committee considered that catheter-associated UTIs may present differently in elderly people and may be associated with confusion. This can affect the presentation and self-reporting of UTIs, which could disadvantage elderly people from getting UroShield if their UTIs are not reported or detected. The committee considered that clinical judgement and support was important to identify elderly people who may benefit from using UroShield. Patient education and counselling is also important to help people understand how to wear and use the device.

**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 these equality issues can be found in section 4.8 of the draft guidance.

**Approved by Associate Director:** Anastasia Chalkidou

**Date:** 4/11/2021

## 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?

During consultation, a consultee suggested that UroShield may not be suitable for everyone as some people may find the device difficult to manipulate. They noted that this may be especially true for people with neurological conditions which affect manual dexterity. The committee advised that patient selection should be decided by healthcare professionals together with patients. Section 4.7 has been added to the guidance document to reflect this issue and other challenges with using UroShield.

Two consultation comments suggested that not recommending UroShield for people with the greatest need may have potential equality issues related to restricting access to the device. The committee considered that the recommendations do not disadvantage a specific group of people. It advised that the recommendations are not intended to preclude the use of the technology but to identify further evidence which, after evaluation, could support a recommendation for wider adoption.

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?

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 medical technology guidance document, and, if so, where?

The committee discussion surrounding equality considerations can be found in sections 4.7 and 4.9 of the guidance.

**Approved by Programme Director:** Sarah Byron

**Date:** 07/02/2022