

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

[Intrapartum care for high risk women]

The impact on equality has been assessed during guidance development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

1.0 Scope: before consultation (To be completed by the developer and submitted with the draft scope for consultation)

1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the draft scope, before consultation, and, if so, what are they?

(Please specify if the issue has been highlighted by a stakeholder)

During the development of the draft scope we identified that there may be specific equality issues in relation to intrapartum care of the following groups:

- Ethnicity
 - Women who have been subjected to female genital mutilation (this issue was raised by stakeholders)
- Women with a sensory impairment (this issue was raised by stakeholders)
- Women with a physical disability (this issue was raised by stakeholders)
- Women with a learning disability (this issue was raised by stakeholders)
- Religious belief (this issue was raised by stakeholders)
- Race – travelling community (this issue was raised by stakeholders)

These groups of women may be at higher risk of adverse outcomes during labour due to the social disadvantage they may experience, the higher likelihood of worse health status and missed antenatal appointments.

1.2 What is the preliminary view on the extent to which these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee? For example, if population groups, treatments or settings are excluded from the scope, are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

These groups of women in labour will be looked at separately in the scope and special considerations will be given in terms of drafting the recommendations.