

1.0.7 DOC EIA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Suspected neurological conditions: recognition and referral

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.0 Guideline development: before consultation (to be completed by the developer before draft guideline consultation)

3.1 Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?

The main issues identified in scoping were around communication of symptoms. There is a general lack of evidence to inform this guideline, in relation to all people with the relevant presentations, not just those identified during scoping. The GC has therefore produced a number of recommendations which attempt to raise awareness of potential causes of symptoms for non-experts. It is hoped that this will facilitate focussed consultations for all people including those identified as having potential equality issues.

There are also a number of recommendations specifically addressing the issue of functional neurological illness which should help recognition of this, improve communication with, and information given to, people presenting with functional symptoms.

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

None

3.3 Were the Committee's considerations of equality issues described in the consultation document, and, if so, where?

There is no over-arching section on equality issues. Functional illness is covered in several sections: Dizziness, Memory failure, Sensory symptoms.

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3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

All of the recommendations in this guideline are specifically intended to improve the quality of referral to specialist services, and do so without prejudice to any grouping.

3.5 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

3.6 Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in questions 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

N/a

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