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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Improving Supportive and Palliative Care for adults (including service delivery)

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?

During the development of the draft scope, it was recognised that the groups listed below require special consideration to ensure equal opportunity to access services.

- People with dementia
- People with cognitive impairment
- People with learning disabilities
- People with other long-term life-limiting conditions
- Homeless people

The Committee will need to be cognisant of these groups a when reviewing evidence and formulating recommendations.

It is further recognised that there may be ethnic and cultural issues related to choices and priorities for supportive and palliative care.

The Committee will need to be cognisant of these when reviewing evidence and formulating recommendations particularly in relation to Black and minority ethnic groups and faith groups.

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It is noted that consideration may also need to be given to people accessing supportive and palliative care services who are from traveller communities or those in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender relationships when drafting any recommendations from the proposed review areas. This may have particular relevance to the delivery of psychological and spiritual support.

The spiritual needs of those accessing palliative and supportive care are important to consider and whilst faith and belief are protected characteristics in terms of the act, we are aware that spiritual needs may be met by appropriate faith and belief support, other non-religion based needs should also be considered important. We plan to consider spiritual needs in the broadest multi-faith sense within the context of each of our review questions.

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?

- This is an update of the 2004 guideline: Improving Supportive and Palliative Care for adults with cancer. The remit has been broadened to identify and address these needs in other groups likely to require these services and, as such this update, will broaden guidance provided for the care of people with long term, life-limiting conditions, not just cancer.
- Children - this is an adult only remit and the needs of children accessing palliative and supportive care are specific. NICE has already commissioned a separate guideline for the care of children at end of life, which includes some service delivery considerations.

Completed by Developer ___ Susan Latchem

Date _____ 16/12/15 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _Christine
Carson _____

Date __ 18/12/15 _____

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