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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Tinnitus: assessment and management

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

2.0 Checking for updates and scope: after consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the revised scope)

2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during consultation, and, if so, what are they?

The stakeholder consultation has identified that children under 5 should also be included. The wording we had used around cognitive impairment lacked clarity and has been amended.

2.2 Have any changes to the scope been made as a result of consultation to highlight potential equality issues?

The age cut-off for children has been removed so that all children are included.

The term cognitive impairment has been used (instead of cognitive difficulties) to clarify that this means people with any medical issue that affects their cognitive ability.

We had stated that people with tinnitus and hyperacusis, profoundly deaf people with tinnitus and those with learning disabilities and cognitive impairment would be given special consideration. We have deleted the list from this section and included it in the equalities section as there was some confusion from stakeholders about what we

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would and would not be covering.

We have changed the terminology in the scope from 'hyperacusis' to 'sound sensitivities such as hyperacusis'. This phrase has been used to cover other types of sound sensitivity, such as misophonia and phonophobia.

2.3 Is the primary focus of the guideline a population with a specific disability-related communication need?

If so, do the key messages for the public need to be produced in an alternative version?

If so, which alternative version is recommended?

The alternative versions available are:

- large font or audio versions for a population with sight loss
- British Sign Language videos for a population deaf from birth
- 'Easy read' versions for people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment.

Does an alternative version(s) of the consultation documents also need to be produced?

The primary focus of the guideline is not a population with a specific disability related communication need.

However, some patients with tinnitus will have hearing loss and a few may have been deaf from birth so a British Sign language video may be beneficial for them. Some patients may have learning disabilities or cognitive impairment and would find an easy read version helpful.

Updated by Developer: Jennifer Hill, NGC Guideline Lead

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Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nichole Taske

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