

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Abdominal aortic aneurysm: diagnosis and management

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

4.0 Final guideline (to be completed by the Developer before GE consideration of final guideline)

4.1 Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

Two stakeholders raised a concern that the recommendations regarding the selection of patients for transfer or treatment of emergency AAA raised the danger of discriminatory practice based on age and/or sex. The committee noted these concerns but in the absence of evidence of inequitable practice across the NHS, were unable to make recommendations to address this. The committee were content that as specialist input would inform the decision to transfer that this would preclude any inappropriate decisions being made based on preconceptions about the likelihood of survival.

One stakeholder enquired whether socioeconomic status and deprivation had been considered, as lifestyle risk factors for co-morbidities and poor outcomes are linked to deprivation. The committee considered various inequalities, including the role of socioeconomic status and deprivation, when they discussed each evidence review. The committee did not believe that their recommendations would prohibit access of lower socioeconomic groups to the best treatment options available within an NHS context, where equitable access to is a core principle of healthcare provision. In relation to risk factors, no direct evidence was identified demonstrating that socioeconomic status was associated with the presence of AAA, as well as aneurysm growth or rupture.

4.2 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

No recommendations make it more difficult for any specific group to access services

4.3 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, is there potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No

4.4 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 to services identified in questions 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

No

4.5 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final guideline, and, if so, where?

All committee discussion of equality issues are included within the committee discussion sections of the relevant evidence reviews.

Updated by Developer: Susan Spiers

Date: 14th August 2018

Updated by Committee Chair: Andrew Bradbury

Date: 10th August 2018

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date: 30th April 2019