

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## NICE guidelines

### Equality impact assessment

#### Perioperative care in adults

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?

- Age over 60 years for the review on pre-op optimisation clinics was questioned by a stakeholder. The age cut off was used because POPs clinics are specifically designed for older patients undergoing surgery. Where these exist, all older adults undergoing planned surgery would be seen in the clinics to ensure optimal outcomes after surgery. The committee recognised that health may vary significantly in older people and some people aged over 60 may be fit and well but considered this a suitable threshold to identify a general population of older people who may benefit from preoperative optimisation.

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?

None were identified.

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?

None identified.

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 question 4.2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

None identified.

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

The review question on pre-op optimisation clinics which included specialist clinics for older adults. Here people have access to health professionals such as geriatricians and social workers. This is discussed in the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review D.

The information and communication needs of people with learning disabilities is discussed in the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review A. The NICE guideline on learning disabilities has been cross referred to in the guideline in the section on information.

Recommendation 1.6.1 refers to the importance of taking into account cognitive function when assessing pain. The rationale for opioids mentions that the ability to use a PCA pump effectively should be taken into account. See the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review N1.

**Updated by Developer:** Sharon Swain

**Date:** 5 March 2020

**Approved by NICE quality assurance lead:** Simon Ellis

**Date:** 30 July 2020