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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Postnatal care up to 8 weeks after birth (update)

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?

No new potential equality issues were identified, but stakeholders requested clarification on two issues. These were:

1. A rewording of the previously-identified equality issue relating to age to take into account the fact there is no well-agreed cutoff for when age no longer acts as an equality issue.
2. Separating women with mental health problems (which is currently covered by a category on vulnerable women) into a separate category.

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

As a result of the suggestions above:

1. The age cutoff has been removed from the equality consideration on age

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2. A new consideration has been added, which reads 'women with mental health problems.'

In addition, the broad category of 'vulnerable women' has been moved. 'Vulnerable women' will now be an overarching category with individual causes of vulnerability addressed as necessary. For example, while young mothers might typically be vulnerable there are some younger mothers who are not vulnerable because of strong family and peer support while other young mothers may be vulnerable because of difficult life circumstances. Therefore it is this vulnerability which the committee will address in all equality considerations, rather than address 'age' as though it is separate from other factors which cause vulnerability.

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.

Updated by Developer _____



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Date 27/11/17 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead Chris Carson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Carson', written over a horizontal line.

Date 22/01/2018 _____

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