

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Obstructive sleep apnoea/ hypopnoea syndrome and obesity hypoventilation syndrome in over 16s

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?

Part of the risk for OSAHS is obesity, diagnosed at BMI at or above 30kg/m². However, increased risks for some co-morbidities of obesity are recognised to occur at lower cut-off points in those from some ethnic minority groups.

The committee has discussed this and agreed that this is important to consider in the context of obesity. They note that we have a cross referral to the NICE guideline [Obesity: identification, assessment and management](#) within the sleep apnoea guideline. Within the obesity guideline there is a cross reference to the NICE guideline [BMI: preventing ill health and premature death in black, Asian and other minority ethnic groups](#).

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

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

Not applicable

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

When considering the needs of people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment when completing questionnaires or adapting to new treatments the committee recognised that taking these communication needs into account is expected to be part of standard care. They were aware that NICE's guideline on [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) includes recommendations on enabling patients to actively participate in their care in and so included a cross referral to this.

When considering the issue of obesity and BMI the committee were aware that there is a NICE guideline on [BMI: preventing ill health and premature death in black, Asian and other minority ethnic groups](#). This is discussed within the NICE guideline on [Obesity: identification, assessment and management](#) and this guideline for Obstructive sleep apnoea/ hypopnoea syndrome and obesity hypoventilation syndrome in over 16s includes a cross referral to obesity guideline which is currently being updated.

Updated by Developer: Carlos Sharpin

Date: 4th June 2021

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date: 19th August 2021