

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Babies, children and young people's experience of healthcare

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

1.0 Checking for updates and scope: before scope consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the draft scope for consultation)

1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope, and, if so, what are they?

There may be potential equality issues relating to babies, children and young people:

- who are immigrants
- who are asylum seekers
- whose first language is not English
- whose parents/carers may be unable to advocate for them, including those whose parents/carers do not speak English
- with learning disabilities or communication difficulties
- with mental health conditions
- with physical or sensory disabilities
- from different ethnic or religious groups
- who have no fixed abode, for example travelling families
- who identify as LGBT+
- who are looked-after babies and children, for example those in care, or living with foster carers

- who are defined as ‘children in need’ or who have a protection plan
- who are young people leaving care
- who are young carers
- who live in a rural or remote location
- who are young offenders
- who come from a disadvantaged socioeconomic background

1.2 What is the preliminary view on the extent to which these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee? For example, if population groups, treatments or settings are excluded from the scope, are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

Recommendations will need to ensure that they are equally applicable to all the groups of babies, children and young people.

For example, children who are migrants or whose first language is not English, or whose parents do not speak English may have difficulty accessing healthcare services and may require additional support and advocacy, and alternative methods and types of information and support.

Children in need or who have a protection plan, looked-after children, young people leaving care, children and young people who are young carers or young offenders may have difficulty accessing healthcare and may require additional support to do this. They may also not have parents/carers to support them or advocate for them, and so may require additional support and advocacy.

Children and young people who have no fixed abode, who come from a disadvantaged socioeconomic background, or who live in a rural or remote location may have difficulty in accessing healthcare, or require extra provision to ensure continuity of care.

Recommendations should take into account if special provision is needed for children and young people with physical or sensory disabilities, learning disabilities, communication difficulties or mental health conditions.

Recommendations should not make assumptions about people's cultural or social values, which may not apply to babies, children and young people from different ethnic backgrounds, or to children and young people who identify as LGBT+.

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Date: 27/11/2018

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date: 04/12/2018