

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Diagnosis and management of gout

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 – no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Disability - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Gender reassignment - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Pregnancy and maternity - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Race - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Religion or belief - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Sex - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Sexual orientation - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Socio-economic factors - no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation
- Other definable characteristics (these are examples):
 - refugees
 - asylum seekers

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

- migrant workers
- looked-after children
- people who are homeless
- prisoners and young offenders
- any others identified

no additional equality issues been raised during the consultation

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?

There are no recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups.

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?

The recommendations do not have the potential to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities.

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?

N/A

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

The committee discussion section of the information and support review A describes women's experience of delays in diagnosis due to gender, and poor provision of female specific information. The committee highlighted the general belief amongst people with gout and health care professionals that women do not suffer from gout, and this can lead to misdiagnosis. The committee discussed the evidence supporting the provision of tailored information to address specific issues of individuals such as gout within younger age groups and links with menopause.

Disability

The committee include discussion in the Information and support review A of gout as a chronic condition requiring long term treatment if permanent damage to joints is to be avoided, and the lack of understanding of this risk by both patients and health professionals who often focus on treatment of the acute flare.

The committee discuss the debilitating effects that tophi and swollen joints can have, and that chronic gouty arthritis can lead to permanent joint damage and loss of range of motion in the joints within review E Which people should be selected for Urate lowering therapy

In the surgical excision of tophi evidence review O, the committee discussed the adverse effects symptomatic tophi can have on a person's quality of life due to severe pain or restricted mobility and disability. The committee discussed that development of tophi is seen in people with uncontrolled gout and tends to be in an older population. Development of tophi can be avoided through treatment with urate lowering treatment.

Updated by Developer: G Ritchie

Date: 11/3/22

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: S Ellis

Date: 04/04/2022