

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Depression in adults: treatment and management

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?

(Please specify if the issue has been highlighted by a stakeholder)

The following groups of people have been identified as potentially raising specific issues:

- Men: differences in help-seeking behaviour and presentation may mean that depression is under recognised and under treated in this group. Overall, men have a higher incidence of adverse outcomes such as suicide.
- Older people: late onset depression may be under diagnosed and the needs of this population may be particularly complex because of, for example, life events or co-morbid illness. People from black and minority ethnic groups: cultural attitudes to mental health could be a barrier to accessing mental health services. Response to interventions may vary.

- Carer wellbeing: identified by stakeholders. It was suggested that Carers may not always get access to the treatment they need.

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?

The preliminary view is that the populations listed above need special consideration throughout the development of this guideline and will be integral to the discussions where the evidence is lacking. There may well be specific differences in recommendations for these groups. Carer wellbeing has been added as an outcome measure in the scope (see scope section 1.6).

As there are two guidelines currently being developed for people with learning disabilities, special consideration will not be given to people with learning disabilities, notably in relation to the different systems for accessing and delivering treatment.

Completed by Developer ___ National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health

Date ___ 19/02/2015 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _____

Date _____ 19/02/2015 _____

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?

The following populations or issues were identified:

- The older people
- Stigmatisation of mental health problems
- LGBT
- Travellers
- Students

People with co-existing health problems

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

- Older people: They were already in the scope as a group that will be given specific consideration in this guideline.
- Stigmatisation of mental health problems: We will take into account a range of equality issues including language and different cultural conceptualisations of disease. This guideline will also link to Service user experience in adults mental health, CG136.
- LGBT, travellers and students: There was no evidence to suggest that these groups warranted specific consideration for this guideline update.
- People with co-existing health problems: people with co-existing mental health problems will be taken into consideration, and this is a new addition to the scope. Please see section 1.1 for the amendment. Co-existing physical health problems will not be covered as a guideline covering Depression in adults with a chronic physical health problem was published in 2009, see CG91.

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.

No.

Updated by Developer _____ National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health

Date _____ 13/05/2015 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _____

Date _____ 13/05/2015 _____

3.0 Guideline development: before consultation (to be completed by the Developer before consultation on the draft guideline)

3.1 Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?

Men, older people, people from black and minority ethnic groups and people with coexisting mental health conditions were identified as groups requiring specific consideration in the scope. Subgroup analysis was undertaken for these groups where evidence was available to do this – namely older people, men and people from black and minority ethnic groups. Recommendations were made specifically for older people about general principles for first line treatment. Recommendations were made about access to services which specifically highlighted men, older people, and people from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

No

3.3 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the guideline for consultation, and, if so, where?

Yes – in the linking evidence to recommendations sections related to the relevant recommendations.

3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations 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?

3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations 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

3.5 Is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No

3.6 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 questions 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

N/A

Completed by Developer _____ Angela Bennett (Director of Guidelines) _____

Date __ 18/04/17 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _____

Date _____ 18/04/2017 _____

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?

A stakeholder has raised that asylum seekers, people from LGBT groups and pregnant women require special consideration because they are more likely to have mental health issues.

Pregnant women are already covered by existing NICE guidance on Antenatal and perinatal mental health so no changes to the recommendations in the Depression guideline have been made as a result of this comment. However the Antenatal and perinatal mental health guideline has been added to the list of related NICE guidance in the guideline.

LGBT groups are already explicitly mentioned in recommendation 1.3.5 as a group where pathways need to be in place to promote their access to mental health services. In light of the comment we have added asylum seekers to this recommendation.

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 questions 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

As stated in section 4.1, recommendations have been made to promote access to mental health services for specific groups

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

Yes – in the linking evidence to recommendations sections related to the relevant recommendations.

Updated by Developer ___Angela Bennett_____

Date ___12/12/2017_____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _____

Date ___12/12/2017_____