

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)

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NICE guidelines

**Equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)
template**

**2023 exceptional surveillance of Myeloma (NICE guideline
NG35)**

The considerations and potential impact on equality and health inequalities have been considered throughout the guidance development, maintenance and update process according to the principles of the NICE equality policy and those outlined in [Developing NICE guidelines: the manual](#).

This EHIA relates to:

[Section 1.8](#) of the guideline on [Myeloma](#) (NICE guideline NG35)

Appendix A: equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)

2023 exceptional surveillance of Myeloma (NICE guideline NG35)

STAGE 1. Surveillance review

Date of surveillance review: June 2023

Focus of surveillance review: Myeloma (NICE guideline NG35)

Exceptional review

1.1 On reviewing the existing EIA or EHIA and issues log for the guideline(s), describe below any equality and health inequalities issues relevant to the current surveillance review

When the guidelines were developed, an [equality impact assessment](#) was carried out. This document confirmed that no recommendations have been made that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services.

The Committee also did not find anything within the evidence to suggest that the information and support needs of the BME community are different to those of any other people with myeloma. Therefore, no specific recommendations have been made for this group of people.

1.2 Did you identify any equality and health inequalities issues through initial intelligence gathering (for example, national policy documents, topic expert/patient group feedback, evidence searches, implementation data)?

No equalities issues were identified during initial intelligence gathering.

1.3 If you have consulted stakeholders or topic experts, what questions did you ask about equality and health inequalities issues?

Topic experts were asked the following question:

Are you aware of any issues related to health inequalities for specific subgroups of the population? For example, in relation to protected characteristics or other dimensions of health inequalities such as deprivation, geographical factors, and being from a vulnerable group.

Stakeholders were consulted and asked the following question:

Are you aware of any health inequality issues in this area? If yes, can you provide your comments?

1.4 What equality and health inequalities issues have been identified during this surveillance review and what was the impact on the current review and outcome decision? [If an update is proposed, include information in the update and outcomes plan]

Three health inequalities issues were identified by two stakeholders (1 university hospital trust and 1 charity) during the stakeholder consultation in this review:

The first issue included patients who live in rural areas (more than an hour from their treatment centre) where a lack of antibiotic prophylaxis may potentially increase the risk in cases of febrile neutropenia.

A second stakeholder raised concerns around health inequalities for deprived groups with myeloma. They highlighted that cancer survival is worse for the most deprived groups and health inequalities can have an impact across the patient journey from seeking a referral, to screening, diagnosis, and treatment outcomes. They also stated that there could be an inequality impact by not considering antibiotic prophylaxis for patients from ethnic minority groups at risk of infection as they have a higher risk of co-morbidities and may experience more difficulty accessing routine cancer services.

This feedback has not led to an impact on the outcome of the review as no new or additional evidence has been identified to address the potentially health inequalities issues being raised. This intelligence will be logged for consideration at the next surveillance review or update.

Completed by surveillance reviewer: KB Technical Analyst

Date: 30.05.23

Approved by NICE surveillance associate director: KN, associate director

Date: 31.05.23

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