

1.0.7 DOC EIA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Cataracts in adults: management

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?

A number of stakeholders at consultation raised issues around people with learning difficulties or cognitive impairment. In particular, because the recommendations for referral are based around self-report of symptoms, stakeholders were concerned that this would create a barrier for access by people who are less able to self-report.

The committee acknowledged these concerns, but agreed these were general issues for people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment throughout the healthcare system, and not ones that were specific to cataract surgery. As such, and in the absence of any evidence, they agreed there were no solutions to these problems that could be recommended in the area of cataract surgery that would be different to those in any other clinical area. They agreed that it was incumbent on all people working within the NHS to make appropriate adaptations to make sure people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment are not disadvantaged within the NHS, and this would apply in exactly the same way in cataract surgery as other areas. As such, they agreed the best way to address these concerns was through the recommendations made on accessible patient information and the link to the more general NICE guidance on patient experience in adult NHS services, which includes sections on capacity and consent.

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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?

None beyond what is discussed in 4.1 above

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?

Not beyond what has been drafted.

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

Yes. The Committee's considerations of equality issues are documented in the committee discussion sections of the full guideline and also in the appropriate responses to stakeholder comments document.

Updated by Developer: Susan Spiers, Guideline Lead

Date: 04 August 2017

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kay Nolan

Date 26 October 2017