

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Glaucoma: diagnosis and management (update)

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

1.0 Scope: before 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 development of the draft scope, before consultation, and, if so, what are they?

Glaucoma more commonly affects people over the age of 70.

It also has a higher prevalence in people who are of black African or black Caribbean descent.

Suspicion of a Glaucoma diagnosis is often first raised by commercial optometrists undertaking routine eye testing. For some groups, such as the homeless or travellers, there may not be access to this commercial service and therefore early diagnosis (and therefore management) of Glaucoma may be delayed. Similarly, because of the commercial nature of this service, people living in socially deprived areas may not have the same access to businesses who may not choose to locate their services in areas of social deprivation.

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 draft scope clearly identifies those over 70 and those of black African or black Caribbean descent as sub-groups in whom it will be important to review specific evidence to inform recommendations.

Whilst unable to influence the commercial element of access to services, the committee will consider the needs of homeless people and travellers when drafting their recommendations.

Completed by Developer: S Latchem

Date 10 May 2016

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: S Willett

Date: 17 May 2016