

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Macular degeneration: diagnosis and management of age-related macular degeneration

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

Scope: after consultation (To be completed by the developer and submitted with the final scope)

2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during consultation, and, if so, what are they?

Following stakeholder consultation, the scoping group discussed a suggestion to stipulate 'people who do not speak English' as a specific group for consideration within the scope. The group considered that 'people who not speak English' are at greater risk of social isolation, not being able to access services and are more likely to fall within lower socio-economic status groups. However, it was felt that clinical management of 'people who do not speak English' was unlikely to vary significantly but that they would need to be considered by the committee as part of overall equality considerations mandated by the Equalities Act 2010.

There was a debate about whether the plan to develop guidance on service organisation for Macular degeneration services required qualitative identification of enablers and barriers to accessing services as raised by some stakeholders. It was agreed that this would be discussed with the guideline committee during the development phase of the guideline.

Stakeholders also felt that people in residential care settings or other institutions may need special consideration within development of the guidance. The text under 'groups that will be covered' has been amended to add 'who have difficulty in accessing care such as....living in care settings....'.

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

See final paragraph of box 2.1.

2.3 Is the primary focus of the guideline a population with a specific disability-related communication need?

If so, is an alternative version of the 'Information for the Public' document recommended?

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 who are deaf from birth;
- 'Easy read' versions for people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment.

The primary focus of the guideline is people with age-related macular degeneration who may have specific disability-related visual communication needs.

The Public Involvement Programme in conjunction with the team at NICE responsible for managing online external facing content are currently working together to ascertain the particular needs of people with sight loss.

Large font will be used when developing 'Information for the Public'.

Updated by Developer

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Approved by NICE quality assurance lead

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