

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

#### STA Fingolimod for the treatment of relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis

The impact on equality has been assessed during this appraisal according to the principles of the NICE Equality scheme.

#### Consultation

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

Not applicable. No equality issues were identified during the scoping exercise.

2. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the submissions, expert statements or academic report, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No equality issues were raised in the submissions or expert statements.

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the Committee, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No potential equality issues were identified by the Committee during the course of the appraisal.

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology compared with other

groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?
No

5. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?
Not applicable

6. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the appraisal consultation document, and, if so, where?
The summary table in the ACD states that no equality issues were identified during the scoping exercise or during the course of the appraisal.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Elisabeth George

**Date:** 21 07 2011

## Second Consultation

7. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?
Not applicable. No equality issues were identified during the scoping exercise.

8. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the submissions, expert statements or academic report, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?
No equality issues were raised in the submissions or expert statements or in the responses from consultees and commentators on the appraisal

consultation document.

9. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the Committee, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No potential equality issues were identified by the Committee during the course of the appraisal.

10. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

No

11. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable

12. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the appraisal consultation document, and, if so, where?

The summary table in the second ACD states that no equality issues were identified during the scoping exercise or during the course of the appraisal.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Elisabeth George

**Date:** 21 10 2111

## Final appraisal determination

1. Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?

No equality issues were raised during the first or second round of consultation on the ACDs.

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 the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

The FAD includes a recommendation for the use of fingolimod for the treatment of highly active relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis only in adults whose relapse rates have remained unchanged or have increased compared with the previous year despite treatment with beta interferon.

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

No. Fingolimod is now recommended for the treatment of highly active relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis only in adults whose relapse rates have remained unchanged or have increased compared with the previous year despite treatment with beta interferon.

Any patients currently receiving fingolimod whose disease does not meet these criteria, should have the option to continue treatment with fingolimod until they and their clinicians consider it appropriate to stop.

4. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final appraisal determination, and, if so, where?

The summary table in the FAD states that no equality issues were identified

during the scoping exercise or during the course of the appraisal.

**Approved by Centre or Programme Director (name):** Meindert Boysen

**Date:** 06 03 12