

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### **STA Apixaban for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in people with non-valvular atrial fibrillation**

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

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (draft scope consultation and scoping workshop discussion), and, if so, what are they?

Age. During draft consultation a consultee stated that availability of therapy should not be restricted by the patients' age.

People whose native language is not English. During the scoping workshop an attendee stated that people whose native language is not English could face restrictions or barriers when accessing warfarin clinics. They stated that close cooperation is needed with patients in order to successfully manage stroke risks. Language difficulties in combination with socioeconomic status could mean that this group received a lower standard of treatment than others.

The second scoping consultation did not raise any further issues.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee?

Age. It was agreed in the scoping workshop that, should the topic proceed through the appraisal process, access to the technology should not be defined by any of the protected characteristics outlined in the current equalities legislation.

People whose native language is not English. During the scoping workshop the workshop attendees did not expect the appraisal of apixaban to impose any unfair restrictions to treatment based on language and access to the technology should not be defined by any of the protected characteristics outlined in the current equalities legislation.

3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No changes were required

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the matrix been made?

No

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** ...Janet Robertson.....

**Date:** 31st May 2012