

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

STA Canakinumab for treating systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis

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?

During consultation on the draft scope, the following concerns which could lead to unequal access to treatment were raised:

- A patient's distance from specialist centres
- Absence of outreach clinics
- Limited commitment of District General Hospitals to research and ensure close surveillance of patients
- Limited availability of funding to support families

Consultees highlighted the importance of ensuring that any recommendations promote equality in access to care. In particular, enabling biologics to be available in the transition period between paediatric to adolescent to adult disease was considered important, so that adults who developed their disease in childhood have ongoing access to medication when they transfer to adult services.

Consultees also expressed the view that sJIA may interrupt a child's education due disrupted attendance when disease is uncontrolled, and therefore lead to inequality in educational opportunities which can have a long lasting negative impact on the patient's adult life and career prospects.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality

issues need addressing by the Committee?

No equality issues relating to protected population groups defined by equalities legislation were raised during consultation. Equality of access is a guidance implementation issue and is considered to be outside the remit of a health technology appraisal.

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

No equality issues relating to protected population groups defined by equalities legislation were raised during consultation, therefore no changes to the scope are 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 additional stakeholders relating to potential equality issues have been identified.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Frances Sutcliffe

Date: 11 10 2013