

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE
TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

STA Rituximab in combination with corticosteroids for treating anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody-associated vasculitis

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 the draft scope consultation, it was suggested that paediatric patients be included in the population and that there might be an increase in vasculitis in first or second generation immigrant populations. In addition, consultees stated that because this treatment is administered intravenously, there might be difficulties in access to treatment for patients with transport concerns (such as those living in rural areas, with financial issues, or with physical disabilities).

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

Inclusion of paediatric patients is dependent on the marketing authorisation; rituximab will only be appraised within its licensed indication. The other issues raised fall outside the remit of a NICE technology appraisal of rituximab, and it is not expected that an appraisal of rituximab will impose any restrictions in terms of the locality of patients or otherwise limit access for people with disability.

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

The population in the scope has been changed from 'adults' to 'people' in order to allow for inclusion of paediatric or young adult patients, should this population be included within the marketing authorisation.

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?

None were identified.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Helen Knight

Date: 23/01/2013