

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

MTA of adalimumab, dexamethasone and sirolimus for treating non-infectious uveitis

Batch 42

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 scoping process, the following issues were raised:

- Efficacy may be uncertain in some subgroups because of heterogeneous populations or lack of clinical evidence; these subgroups may not get access to treatment
- There are wide ethnic variations in the incidence and severity of several of the uveitis types which may impact on the relative impact of disease in different groups
- The treatments vary in their mode of administration (intravitreal injection/implant and subcutaneous injection) and in the need for, and frequency of, hospital administration; accessibility and compliance with treatment may be an issue for some groups
- If technologies are not made available it would lead to inequity in access to sight-saving treatment, because only patients able to afford private treatment would have access
- People who may be excluded:
 - Young people requiring chronic treatment who should not be exposed to a possible early replacement of the lens
 - Pregnant people or people planning to become pregnant
 - People with hypersensitivity
 - People with comorbidities such as osteoporosis (in whom corticosteroid use increases the risk of fractures)
 - People with underlying systemic rheumatoid diseases (including

ankylosing spondylitis), for whom vision loss would impact quality of life

- People with other disabilities are likely to be adversely affected by side effects of systemic treatments

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

The relevance of equalities issues to the appraisal was discussed at the scoping workshop.

The Appraisal Committee does not make recommendations based on financial status. Therefore the inequity in access because of financial status is not an equality issue that can be addressed in a technology appraisal.

It is not expected that an appraisal of dexamethasone intravitreal implant and sirolimus intravitreal injection will impose any restrictions in terms of the access to treatment for specific groups, because the technologies will be appraised in line with their marketing authorisations. Therefore young people, pregnant people, and people with underlying conditions will be considered in line with the marketing authorisations of the drugs. Any disproportionate impact of the recommendations on people with protected characteristics under the equalities legislation will be taken into account by the Appraisal Committee.

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

No.

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): Frances Sutcliffe.....
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