

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE  
EXCELLENCE**

**HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME**

**Equality impact assessment – Guidance development**

**FTA - Bimekizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque  
psoriasis**

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

Final appraisal determination (when no ACD was issued)

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| 1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how? |
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As in previous technology appraisals on psoriasis, it has been highlighted that the Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) can underestimate disease severity in those with black or brown skin, and that the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) has limited validity in some people, and may also miss anxiety and depression. It was also noted that psoriasis may have an increased impact on people with darker skin. These were considered by the committee and the committee included specific recommendations have been included to address these
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| 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? |
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None raised
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| 3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these? |
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No new equality issues raised – equality issues raised in previous appraisals in plaque psoriasis applicable.

4. Do the 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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

Recommendation in place to minimise any barriers or difficulties:

“Take into account how skin colour could affect the PASI score and make any appropriate clinical adjustments.”

5. Is there potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

Recommendation in place to minimise any adverse impact:

“Take into account any physical, psychological, sensory or learning disabilities, or communication difficulties that could affect the responses to the DLQI and make any appropriate adjustments.”

6. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access identified in questions 4 or 5, or otherwise fulfil NICE’s obligations to promote equality?

Yes, 2 recommendations added, aligned with other NICE guidance in plaque psoriasis. See questions 4 and 5 above.

7. Have the committee’s considerations of equality issues been described in the final appraisal determination, and, if so, where?

Yes, in section 3.10

**Approved by Associate Director (name): Henry Edwards**

**Date:** 15/07/2021