

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

STA Dexamethasone intravitreal implant for treating diabetic macular oedema

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)

1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how?

During the scoping stage it was noted that if a person is registered as blind or partially sighted, it is considered a disability, as stated in the Equality Act 2010. Therefore, the patient population addressed in this appraisal is a protected group under this act. The committee acknowledged the equality concern and considered this in its decision making.

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?

The patient expert emphasised that there is a high prevalence of diabetes among people with a learning disability. They highlighted there are challenges in providing treatments and routine eye tests for people with learning disabilities and that anything to help improve that access and reduce health inequality is worth considering. The committee noted that people with a learning disability could benefit from a treatment involving fewer injections and fewer visits to the clinic for treatment. The committee considered that a difference in prevalence between different groups was not considered an equalities issue that could be addressed through a technology appraisal. It was satisfied that these groups would have appropriate access to treatments

such as dexamethasone intravitreal implant if it was recommended. The committee concluded that recommending dexamethasone intravitreal implant would address many of the important equality issues identified.

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No

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?

No

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?

N/A

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?

N/A

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

Yes, section 3.15 of FAD

Approved by Associate Director (name): Jasdeep Hayre

Date: 22 July 2022