

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### STA Esketamine for treatment-resistant depression

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?

Yes. The company proposed adding people above >65 years as a subgroup because this group of people are likely to receive a different dose of the drug due to tolerability. The company highlighted that there was a lack of data for this subgroup, and considered that this could constitute an equalities issue. The company also highlighted that esketamine has post-administration restrictions to driving, and considered that this might be an equalities issue due to difference in geographic access.

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

Subgroups based on age have not been included in the scope. Unless specified in the marketing authorisation, the committee cannot make recommendations based on age because it is a protected characteristic. Lack of data for this subgroup is therefore not a scoping equalities issue.

Issues relating to geographic access cannot be addressed in a technology appraisal.

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

No – equalities issues not relevant to include in the draft scope.

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):** Jasdeep Hayre

**Date:** 26/04/2019