

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

### STA Tofacitinib for treating active ankylosing spondylitis

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?
No.

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?
No.

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?
No equalities issues were identified during this appraisal. But, in NICE's <a href="#">technology appraisal guidance on TNF-alpha inhibitors for ankylosing spondylitis and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis</a> , it was noted that healthcare professionals should take into account any physical, sensory or learning disabilities or communication difficulties that could affect responses to the BASDAI and spinal visual analogue scale. The committee considered this in its decision making.

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?

This was taken into account by the committee. See above.

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, section 1.4 recommends to take into account any physical, sensory or learning disabilities, or communication difficulties that could affect the responses to the BASDAI and make any adjustments needed.

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

Yes in section 3.12 of the final guidance.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** .....Richard Diaz.....

**Date:** 25 Aug 2023