

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

**STA Fluocinolone acetonide intravitreal implant for treating
chronic diabetic macular oedema in phakic eyes after an
inadequate response to previous therapy (Review of
TA613)**

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, it was noted during consultation that restricting treatment only for people with central macular thickness 400 micrometres is discriminatory as early treatment allows rapid resolution of oedema and for suboptimal responders to anti-VEGF treatment, the switch to steroids can be done early before chronic oedema causes irreversible visual loss.

NICE also noted that if a person is registered as blind or partially sighted, they are considered disabled, as stated in the Equality Act 2010. Therefore, the patient population addressed in this appraisal is a protected group under this act.

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

These issues will be taken into account in the committee's decision making.

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): Ross Dent

Date: 30/08/2023