

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE  
EXCELLENCE**

**HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME**

**Equality impact assessment – Guidance development**

**Dupilumab for treating prurigo nodularis [4054]**

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

**Consultation**

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

Yes, stakeholders identified the following potential equality issues and requested that NICE:

- Consider that the tools for assessing severity and response to treatment may not be sensitive enough in people with darker skin pigmentation
- Consider that a study in the United States reported a higher prevalence of prurigo nodularis in people of African and African Caribbean family background
- Consider that clinical experts believe that prurigo nodularis is more prevalent in people of south and east Asian family background in the UK
- Consider that prurigo nodularis presents more frequently in women

The committee discussed these issues and noted that issues related to differences in prevalence or incidence of a disease cannot normally be addressed in a technology appraisal recommendation. The committee was also mindful that tools for assessing severity and response may not be sensitive enough in people with darker skin pigmentation.

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?

N/A

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

The committee noted the concern of the patient expert at the meeting who noted that people with brown or black skin may wait longer for a prurigo nodularis diagnosis. They recognised the need for quicker diagnosis in people with brown or black skin. However, this issue was unable to be addressed in a technology appraisal recommendation.

4. Do the preliminary 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 preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No

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 draft guidance, and, if so, where?

Yes in section 3.17 of the final draft guidance

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

**Date:** [xx/xx/year]

### **Final appraisal determination**

(when an ACD issued)

1. Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

Yes, stakeholders identified the following potential equality issues and requested that NICE:

- Consider that the tools for assessing severity and response to treatment may not be sensitive enough in people with darker skin pigmentation
- Consider that a study in the United States reported a higher prevalence of prurigo nodularis in people of African and African Caribbean family background
- Consider that clinical experts believe that prurigo nodularis is more prevalent in people of south and east Asian family background in the UK
- Consider that prurigo nodularis presents more frequently in women

The committee discussed these issues and noted that issues related to differences in prevalence or incidence of a disease cannot normally be addressed in a technology appraisal recommendation. The committee was

also mindful that tools for assessing severity and response may not be sensitive enough in people with darker skin pigmentation.

2. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that 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.

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, 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?

No.

4. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access identified in questions 2 and 3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

No changes are required.

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

Yes, in the equality section of the final draft guidance.

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

**Date:** 1 Feb 2024

