

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

STA Ritlecitinib for treating moderate to severe alopecia areata in people 12 years and over

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?

The following equalities issues were raised during the scoping process and were viewed as needing addressing by the committee:

- Where appropriate, the committee should consider the population included in the recommendation and whether this would lead to an equalities issue based on age.
- Where appropriate, the committee will consider the appropriateness of the health-related quality of life measures used in the appraisal and whether this adequately captures health-related quality of life in the whole population under consideration.

As the draft recommendation does not include reference to a specific age group, the first issue to be addressed is not applicable.

The committee considered the health-related quality of life measures used in the appraisal (see Draft Guidance, section 3.12 to 3.14). It considered that there were likely to be uncaptured benefits in any health-related quality of life measure for people with severe alopecia areata (see Draft Guidance, section 3.20).

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 committee was made aware that some people with alopecia areata may be more affected by the impact of hair loss due to the religious significance of hair.

The committee was made aware severe alopecia areata can have a particularly high impact on psychosocial health and quality of life for young people.

The committee considered these issues in section 3.22 of the Draft Guidance and 3.25 of the Final Draft Guidance.

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 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?

No.

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

Yes, section 3.22

Approved by Associate Director (name): ...Janet Robertson.....

Date: 15 September 2023

Final Draft Guidance

(when draft guidance issued)

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

The committee was made aware that severe alopecia areata is more common in Asian and African groups and that alopecia areata incidence is higher in people with low socioeconomic status, and people from non-White groups, whose hair can have cultural significance.

The committee was made aware people with autoimmune skin conditions including alopecia areata are at higher risk of spontaneous abortions than people without these conditions, and that severe alopecia areata is associated with severe physical disfigurement.

The committee considered these issues in section 3.25 of the Final Draft Guidance.

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?

The recommendation has changed. The technology is recommended. The recommendation applies to all ages and ethnicities, and this will improve access to treatment for alopecia areata in the NHS

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?

Not applicable.

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

Yes, in section 3.25 of the Final Draft Guidance.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Janet Robertson

Date: 14 February 2024