

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

MTA Therapeutics for people with COVID-19 [ID4038]

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation 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?

The following points were raised during the consultation:

- COVID-19 disproportionately affects some people with protected characteristics, including older people, people with disabilities and people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds.
- Vaccine uptake is lower in certain groups, including pregnant women, people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds and disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Telephone assessments may be challenging for those who are deaf or lack capacity.

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

Issues of differences in disease prevalence cannot be addressed in a technology appraisal. If the evidence allows, the committee will consider the impact of vaccination status (and interaction with other characteristics) in the appraisal. The committee will consider carefully if its recommendations make access to any of the therapies more difficult for certain groups.

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

Yes, the impact of vaccination status on the clinical evidence base of each intervention, generalisability to clinical practice and interaction with other risk factors has been added in the 'other considerations' section of the scope.

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the stakeholder list been made?

No additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues were identified during the scoping process.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Ross Dent

Date: 25/07/2022