

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Hypertension in pregnancy: diagnosis and management (update)

3.0 Guideline development: before consultation (to be completed by the Developer before consultation on the draft guideline)

3.1 Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?

The section on antihypertensive treatment after birth was previously called '1.9 Breastfeeding'. This may discriminate against women who cannot or who choose not to breastfeed and so this section has been renamed 'Antihypertensive treatment during the postnatal period' and contains recommendations that are applicable to all women, but which support women who wish to breast-feed.

It is recognised that certain ethnic groups respond to antihypertensives differently and so recommendations for antihypertensive use in the postnatal period have been made to use alternative more appropriate agents in these groups.

No specific changes to the recommendations have been made to accommodate the needs of women who have difficulties communicating in English or who have learning disabilities, but it is expected that the principles of the NICE guideline on patient experience would be followed by healthcare professionals, to ensure the needs of these women are met.

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

No, no other issues have been identified.

3.3 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the guideline for consultation, and, if so, where?

Yes – the issues relating to recommendations for women who are breast-feeding and choice of different antihypertensives for different ethnic groups have been discussed in the committee's discussion of the evidence of Evidence report E.

3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

No – the recommendations do not make it more difficult for any different groups to access services.

3.5 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 – there is not a potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities.

3.6 Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in questions 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

There should be no barriers or difficulties with access to services with the recommendations.

Completed by Developer: Hilary Eadon, Guideline Lead

Date: 7th January 2019

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Chris Carson, Guideline Lead

Date: 29th January 2019