

**1.0.7 DOC EIA (2019)**

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE  
EXCELLENCE**

**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**NICE guidelines**

**Cirrhosis in over 16s: assessment and management  
(update)**

The impact on equality has been assessed during guidance development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

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### 4.0 Final guideline (to be completed by the Developer before GE consideration of final guideline)

4.1 Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

No additional potential equality concerns were raised by stakeholders during the consultation.

4.2 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

Only minor editorial changes were made to the recommendations after consultation. None of those changes make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups.

4.3 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?

Only minor editorial changes were made to the recommendations after consultation. These do not have the potential to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability.

4.4 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 to services identified in question 4.2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

The recommendations have not changed after consultation.

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4.5 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final guideline, and, if so, where?

The issue of medicines compliance and the need for support was raised under the characteristic of disability but was also raised and discussed under socio-economic factors and those experiencing homelessness. Linked to this were equality issues raised under pregnancy and maternity and the appropriateness of recommended treatment options for example EVL or NSBBs for preventing oesophageal variceal bleeding or contraindications for antibiotic prophylaxis for spontaneous bacterial peritonitis. For preventing oesophageal variceal bleeding recommendations 1.3.1 to 1.3.5 reference is made to the consideration of treatment options that would help with compliance and outlines support be it through endoscopic variceal band ligation (EVL) or NSBBs. The rationale and impact section for recommendation 1.3.1 to 1.3.5 highlight that the committee acknowledge issues regarding the invasive nature of EVL but that in some cases due to issues with adhering to a treatment it may be the appropriate action as during endoscopic investigations there may be an opportunity to undertake banding of medium to large varices. The committee acknowledge that some individuals may find it difficult to take NSBBs and manage a treatment regimen due to a range of reasons for example their chaotic lifestyle, and that these factors and individual preferences should be discussed, and treatment decisions made with them regarding what would best fit their needs. For preventing spontaneous bacterial peritonitis with antibiotics recommendations specify to only utilise antibiotics in those that are at high risk. For preventing first decompensation recommendations 1.3.7 to 1.3.8 acknowledge that both carvedilol or propranolol do not have UK marketing authorisation for preventing decompensation and defer the prescriber to good practice in prescribing medicines guidance for doctors which refers to informed decision making with patients and the safety and efficacy of treatment for those receiving it.

Updated by Developer: Chris Carmona

Date: 22 June 2023

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date: 08 September 2023