NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE quality standards

Equality impact assessment

Cerebral palsy in adults

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

### 1. TOPIC ENGAGEMENT STAGE

### 1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during this stage of the development process?

Cerebral palsy is a disorder of motor development. People with cerebral palsy may also have disorders of communication, learning, and vision. These could all act as barriers to accessing care.

### 1.2 Have any population groups, treatments or settings been excluded from coverage by the quality standard at this stage in the process. Are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

The quality standard will cover care and support for adults with cerebral palsy. The quality standard is expected to exclude:

* Diagnosing cerebral palsy
* Children and young people with cerebral palsy

Diagnosing cerebral palsy is not covered by this quality standard as it occurs in childhood. A quality standard on [cerebral palsy in children and young people](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs162) has already been published

Completed by lead technical analyst: Paul Daly

Date:18/03/2019

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date:18/03/2019

### 2. PRE-CONSULTATION STAGE

### 2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the quality standard (including those identified during the topic engagement process)? How have they been addressed?

Topic engagement responses indicated that there are specific services for children with cerebral palsy but not for adults. QSAC heard that there are variations in access to specialised services for adults with cerebral palsy; and that employment rates are low. Development of the draft quality standard also identified that adults with cerebral palsy may have potential equality problems associated with mobility, communication, cognition, and vision, but many of these are covered by legislation. With regards to inequalities in health, adults with cerebral palsy may have a higher risk of developing anxiety and depression than adults who do not have cerebral palsy.

QSAC prioritised areas to develop as quality statements that aim to ensure that adults can access specialised services and that will help those that want to work, or already work, meet their vocational goals. Other areas prioritised aim to ensure that adults can access services to assess and address needs relating to function and participation. Annual reviews and referral to multidisciplinary teams would also help identify adults at risk of, or experiencing, anxiety and depression.

### 2.2 Have any changes to the scope of the quality standard been made as a result of topic engagement to highlight potential equality issues?

No changes have been made to the scope of the quality standard.

### 2.3 Do the draft quality statements 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 draft statements apply to specific subgroups of adults with cerebral palsy, for example those with communication difficulties or specific levels of Gross Motor Function Classification System. However, these sub-groups have been identified as they are the groups that evidence shows would benefit from the intervention described by a statement, or are needed to ensure that the sub-group can access the services they need.

### 2.4 Is there potential for the draft quality statements to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No.

### 2.5 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 2.1, 2.2 or 2.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE’s obligation to advance equality?

The draft statements specifically aim to alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services and thereby advance equality in access. Also, the draft statements on vocational skills and independent living support adults with cerebral palsy to participate in their chosen activities and live an independent life if they so wish.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Paul Daly

Date: 19/08/2019

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 19/08/2019

### 3. POST CONSULTATION STAGE

### 3.1 Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation stage, and, if so, how has the committee addressed them?

Consultation responses suggested some people with cerebral palsy may have difficulty attending annual reviews due to functional impairments.

Statement 2 recognises that some adults with cerebral palsy with complex needs may have limited mobility and find it difficult to attend an appointment. The statement says that arrangements should be made to use an accessible location, provide accessible transport services, ensure that appropriate equipment is available and consider alternative methods for carrying a review, such as home visits. The quality standard overall aims to improve access to services for all adults with cerebral palsy and help people to live a life as independent as they wish.

Committee also heard that the prevalence of genetic causes of cerebral palsy is greater in certain ethnic groups, and that the incidence of two or more people in a family being affected is greater. This may cause issues with access to services and advocacy where family members caring for an adult with cerebral palsy do not have English as a first language.

Statement 1 aims to improve access to services and involves health and social care practitioners who provide care asking adults with cerebral palsy about any changes in their ability to carry out daily activities and referring them to a specialist team for extra, or different, support. The specialist team can provide access to advocacy support. Statement 2 provides an annual review which aims to ensure that a person’s needs are being met. This involves exploring barriers to participation in everyday life and delivering an individualised approach to care.

### 3.2 If the quality statements have changed after the consultation stage, are there any 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?

No changes have been made which would make it more difficult for a specific group to access services.

### 3.3 If the quality statements 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?

None of the changes made have an adverse impact on people with disabilities.

### 3.4 If the quality statements 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 questions 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE’s obligations to advance equality?

The statements specifically aim to alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services and thereby advance equality in access. Also, the statements on vocational skills and independent living support adults with cerebral palsy to participate in their chosen activities and live an independent life if they so wish.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Paul Daly

Date: 17/12/19

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 17/12/19

### 4. After NICE Guidance Executive amendments – if applicable

### 4.1 Outline amendments agreed by Guidance Executive below, if applicable:

Not applicable. Guidance Executive did not require any changes to the quality statements.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Paul Daly

Date: 10/01/2020

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Date: 10/01/2020

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