

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

#### STA – Bevacizumab in combination with a taxane for the first-line treatment of metastatic breast cancer

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?

Consultees at the scoping workshop indicated that there was some evidence suggesting that bevacizumab in combination with a taxane may be particularly effective in African-American women. Clinical specialists indicated that they considered that this might be because of increased incidence of aggressive disease, and that this might be due to genetic factors or other disease factors rather than ethnicity. It was agreed that this was not an issue that needed to be included in the scope.

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 noted information from the manufacturer's submission relating to the potential for worse outcomes in lower socioeconomic groups or by ethnicity. It heard from clinical specialists that there may be differences in overall treatment outcomes between these groups, but that they are likely to result from factors such as lower uptake of screening or later presentation of disease rather than differences in treatment. The Committee concluded that there was no evidence of differences in access to treatment or response to treatment by socioeconomic status or ethnicity in patients with disease at the metastatic stage.

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 access for the specific group?
No	

5.	Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?
N/A	

6.	Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the appraisal consultation document, and, if so, where?
See 4.8 of ACD.	

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

**Date:** July 2010

### **Final appraisal determination**

1.	Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed these?
No further issues raised	

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 access for the specific group?

The recommendations did not change

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable

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

See 4.19 of FAD (relates to issue raised at earlier stage)

**Approved by Centre or Programme Director (name):** Meindert Boysen

**Date:** [15/02/2011]