

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

NICE guidelines

**Equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)
template**

**Psychosis and schizophrenia in children and young
people: recognition and management**

The considerations and potential impact on equality and health inequalities have been considered throughout the guidance development, maintenance and update process according to the principles of the NICE equality policy and those outlined in [Developing NICE guidelines: the manual](#).

This EHIA relates to:

The use of depot antipsychotics with children and young people

Appendix A: equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)

2023 exceptional surveillance of psychosis and schizophrenia in children and young people: recognition and management (NICE guideline CG155)

STAGE 1. Surveillance review

Date of surveillance review: April 2023

Focus of surveillance review: The use of depot antipsychotics

Exceptional

1.1 On reviewing the existing EIA or EHIA and issues log for the guideline(s), describe below any equality and health inequalities issues relevant to the current surveillance review

No issues identified relevant to depot antipsychotics

1.2 Did you identify any equality and health inequalities issues through initial intelligence gathering (for example, national policy documents, topic expert/patient group feedback, evidence searches, implementation data)?

[Please consider all four dimensions of health inequalities below and whether any potential issue(s) were identified. Please note that the dimensions often overlap, and the impact of intersectionality and cumulative disadvantage should also be considered and noted. Where no issue has been identified, ensure that this is also noted.]

The exceptional surveillance review has been triggered by the NHS [independent investigation into the care and treatment of Mr N](#), a 17 year who had been in contact with the criminal justice system and who displayed behaviour consistent with exploitation by 'county lines' drugs gangs. Mr N is described as having heightened vulnerability to exploitation by drugs gangs because of a number of factors including mental health and substance misuse issues, and lack of a safe home environment. This raises potential equality issues around age and safeguarding.

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1.3 If you have consulted stakeholders or topic experts, what questions did you ask about equality and health inequalities issues?
N/A

1.4 What equality and health inequalities issues have been identified during this surveillance review and what was the impact on the current review and outcome decision? [If an update is proposed, include information in the update and outcomes plan]
<p><i>[Please provide details of the key issues identified and any actions or decisions taken. You may want to summarise this in the 'Equalities' section of the surveillance report. Please also record any equality and health inequalities issues identified that were not relevant to this check in the Issues Log for continuity and future review]</i></p> <p>The independent investigation into the care and treatment of Mr N highlights issues with transition planning and notes that if recommendations in transition from children's to adults' services for young people using health or social care services (NICE guideline NG43) had been followed, better consideration would have been given to transition arrangements including access to depot antipsychotics. NG43 includes the recommendation 1.2.3 which recommends 'to ensure the transition planning is developmentally appropriate and takes into account each young person's capabilities, needs and hopes for the future. The point of transfer should...not be based on a rigid age threshold.'</p> <p>Additionally medicines optimisation (NICE guideline NG5) makes recommendation 1.2.1 which recommends that 'organisations should ensure that robust and transparent processes are in place, so that when a person is transferred from one care</p>

setting to another...the current care provider shares complete and accurate information about the person's medicines with the new care provider.'

The issue of Mr N's vulnerability to exploitation is addressed by CG155-1.1.3. This recommends to 'consider children and young people with psychosis or schizophrenia for assessment according to local safeguarding procedures if there are concerns regarding exploitation or self-care, or if they have been in contact with the criminal justice system'.

The exceptional review did not find sufficient evidence to warrant adding recommendations about the use of depot antipsychotics with children and young people to CG155.

It is therefore the surveillance assessment that equalities issues highlighted above are already addressed by CG155, NG43 and NG5, and that no update is needed to recommendations in CG155.

Completed by surveillance reviewer _____M
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Date_____01.03.23_____

Approved by NICE surveillance associate director _____K
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Date_____23.03.22_____

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