

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

Equality and health inequality impact assessment

**Middle meningeal artery embolisation for
non-acute subdural haematomas**

Scoping

- 1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process? If so, what are they?**

Age is a significant risk factor for developing a chronic subdural hematoma. A history of falls or use of anticoagulants or antiplatelet medicines are also risk factors and both are associated with older age. The incidence of chronic subdural hematomas is higher in men.

People with chronic subdural haematoma are likely to be covered by the Equality Act 2010 if their condition has had a substantial adverse impact on normal day to day activities for over 12 months or is likely to do so (that is, they have a disability).

- 2 Have any potential health inequality issues been identified during the scoping process? If so, what are they?**

No health inequality issues were identified.

- 3 What is the preliminary view as to what extent the committee needs to address the potential issues set out in questions 1 and 2?**

The committee will consider whether the evidence reflects the relevant population in terms of age and sex. The committee will consider if its recommendations could disadvantage a particular group of people and

whether any adjustments are needed to ensure equality with regards to the relevant protected characteristics.

4 Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight the potential equality or health inequality issues set out in questions 1 and 2?

The equality issues are described in section 7 of the scope. People for whom evacuation surgery is unsuitable due to treatment frailty are specified as a relevant subgroup in the decision problem table.

5 Has the stakeholder list been updated as a result of additional equality or health inequality issues identified during the scoping process?

No additional stakeholders were added as a result of additional equality or health inequality issues identified during scoping.

Approved by senior responsible officer: Lizzy Latimer

Date: 20/01/2026

Draft guidance (if issued)

6 Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee? If so, how?

The committee noted the relationship between age, sex and disability and the procedure under assessment. It noted that people who cannot have surgery are likely to be older and frailer and may be considered to have a disability. It flagged that there is a greater unmet need for this group. The committee took this consideration into account when it made a recommendation for using the procedure in this group.

7 Have the potential health inequality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee? If so, how?

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No health inequality issues were identified during scoping.

- 8 Have any other potential equality or health inequality issues been raised in information submitted by stakeholders or in the external assessment report? If so, how has the committee addressed these?**

No additional equality or health inequality issues were raised in the external assessment report or information submitted by stakeholders.

- 9 Have any other potential equality or health inequality issues been identified by the committee? If so, how has the committee addressed these?**

The committee noted that there are regional disparities in access to neurosurgery centres. The committee took this consideration into account in its decision-making.

- 10 Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult for a specific group to access the technology than other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for this group?**

The provisional recommendations do not pose a barrier to, or difficulties with, access for any group; the procedure was provisionally recommended as an option for treating non-acute subdural haematomas both with surgery and alone when surgery is contraindicated or not clinically indicated.

- 11 Has the committee made any reasonable adjustments within its recommendations for the equality issues identified? That is, have any adjustments to the recommendations been made to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to the technology needed to fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality.**

No reasonable adjustments specified.

12 Has the committee taken into consideration the health inequality issues in its decision-making? If so, how was this done?

The committee noted the greater unmet need for people for whom surgery to remove the haematoma is not suitable because the surgical risk is too high and the greater unmet need for people for whom surgery is not clinically indicated. It took this into account when making recommendations for using the procedure in the group.

13 Have the committee's considerations of equality and health inequality issues been described in the draft guidance? If so, where?

The committee's comments regarding equality and health inequality are described in section 3.16, 3.17 and 3.18 of the draft guidance.

Approved by senior responsible officer: Lizzy Latimer

Date: 17/06/2026