

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Heart valve disease in adults: investigation and management

3.0 Guideline development: before consultation (to be completed by the Developer before consultation on the draft guideline)

3.1 Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the Committee, and, if so, how?

- Geographical inequalities for those who do not live close to a valve clinic. Recommendation 1.9.1 cross refers to the recommendations on tailoring healthcare services for each patient in the NICE guideline on patient experience in adult NHS services. These recommendations ensure that people are offered access to services even though they might not be available locally. They also recommend that patients' wishes are taken into account including the option to not have certain treatments. The committee were keen to emphasise that some people do not wish to travel long distances to receive treatment and that treatment options provided locally should be discussed. This is discussed in the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review L.

- People who use intravenous drugs
In the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review H they highlight the need to provide support for people with drug misuse problems. The discussion cross refers to the NICE guideline on drug misuse in the over 16s: psychosocial interventions.

- Age
Age is not a barrier to receiving any diagnostic test or interventions recommended in the guideline. In recommendation 1.5.1 we refer to the benefits to quality of life (both

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in the short and longer term).

- People with dementia
- People with learning disabilities.

In the committee's discussion of the evidence in evidence review L the importance of involving people in their care is discussed including the option of an advocate.

The committee signposted to the recommendations on involving people living with dementia in decisions about their care in the NICE guideline on dementia and on communicating and making information accessible in the NICE guideline on care and support of people growing older with learning disabilities.

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

No

3.3 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the guideline for consultation, and, if so, where?

See 3.1

3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations 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?

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No

3.5 Is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No

3.6 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 or 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

No

Completed by Developer: Sharon Swain

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Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kay Nolan

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