

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## NICE guidelines

### Equality impact assessment

#### Falls in older adults

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

#### **1.0 Checking for updates and scope: before scope consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the draft scope for consultation)**

1.1 Is the proposed primary focus of the guideline a population with a specific communication or engagement need, related to disability, age, or other equality consideration? Y/N

If so, what is it and what action might be taken by NICE or the developer to meet this need? (For example, adjustments to committee processes, additional forms of consultation.)

Yes. The primary focus of this guideline is a population who may have a specific communication or engagement need related to age and disability. This guideline will consider people aged 65 years or older, or people aged 50 – 64 years old who have a condition that may increase risk of falling.

People within this age group, particularly those at risk of falls, may have cognitive problems such as dementia and age-related sensory impairments. Appropriate representation throughout the process needs to be considered.

1.2 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope, and, if so, what are they?

(Please specify if the issue has been highlighted by a stakeholder)

- Age  
The guideline population is older people and age-related impairments may mean that access to services and engagement with services are more difficult.
- Disability

People with physical disabilities may be at increased risk of falling because of their disability. Access to services may be more difficult for disabled people with poor mobility and who are housebound. Mental disabilities may make understanding and adherence to interventions more difficult.

- Gender reassignment  
No issue identified.
- Pregnancy and maternity  
No issue identified.
- Race  
Language and cultural factors may hinder access to information and services and engagement of older people from minority ethnic groups.
- Religion or belief  
No issue identified.
- Sex  
No issue identified
- Sexual orientation  
No issue identified.
- Socio-economic factors  
People in lower socio-economic groups may be at increased risk of falls because of financial disadvantage and related issues in their home circumstances, and access to appropriate eyewear and footwear.
- Other definable characteristics:  
People who are homeless or who have insecure accommodation such as asylum seekers may have difficulty accessing and engaging with services.  
People with drug or alcohol problems may be at particular risk of falls.

1.3 What is the preliminary view on the extent to which these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee?

The equality issues will be addressed by the committee as part of the review of evidence and development of recommendations. We do not intend to consider these groups as subgroups in examination of the evidence.

Completed by Developer Norma O'Flynn

Date 22.02.2022

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: **Kay Nolan**

Date: **07/04/2022**