

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

#### STA Upadacitinib for treating giant cell arteritis [ID6299]

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?

During the scoping process the following potential equality issues were raised:

- That there are limited treatment options and inequality of treatment provisions across England for giant cell arteritis.
- GCA mainly effects elderly people, who are at risk of side effects of long-term use of corticosteroids leading to disability
- GCA is more common in women than men
- A current treatment tofacitinib is prescribed in specialist centres and older people living in rural areas, frailer people or people with disabilities which disproportionately affects elderly with disabilities who also may face challenges accessing specialised centres.

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?

- No additional equality issues were raised

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, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

No

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

6. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access identified in questions 4 or 5, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

N/A

7. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the appraisal consultation document, and, if so, where?

Yes, in section 3.21

**Approved by Associate Director (name): Ross Dent Date: 06/01/2026**

Technology appraisals: Guidance development

Equality impact assessment for the single technology appraisal of upadacitinib for treating giant cell arteritis

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