

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

STA Talquetamab for treating relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma after 3 or more treatments

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? |
| <p>During scoping, a stakeholder noted that for talquetamab there is a requirement for patients to stay in or near the hospital for 48 hours after each set-up dose. And the costs incurred by hospital visits and time off work will have a more significant impact on people with lower incomes. The stakeholder considered that implementation plans must ensure all patients have the opportunity to access this treatment. The committee considered that the implementation of treatment pathways was not considered an issue that can be addressed by a NICE technology appraisal recommendation.</p> <p>A stakeholder also noted that patients from some ethnic subgroups have worse outcomes in myeloma and may therefore more quickly come to need fourth-line treatment. The committee considered whether its recommendations could have a different impact on people protected by the equality legislation than on the wider population. Race is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 but socioeconomic status is not. The committee considered that its recommendations do not restrict access to treatment for some people over others. So, the committee agreed that these were not potential equality issues in this evaluation.</p> |

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?

A professional organisation submission noted that there is an increased incidence of multiple myeloma and development of more severe disease in African and African-Caribbean people. People with more severe multiple myeloma are more likely to need further lines of treatment because it is associated with an increased risk of relapse with prior lines of treatment. Race is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. A patient organisation also noted that as with all treatments the costs incurred by hospital visits and time off work will have a more significant impact on people with lower incomes. The committee considered that its recommendations do not restrict access to treatment for some people over others. So, the committee agreed that these were not potential equality issues in this evaluation.

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No other potential equality issues identified by the committee.

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?
No.	

7.	Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the draft guidance, and, if so, where?
Yes, section 3.17 of draft guidance.	

Approved by Associate Director (name): Ross Dent

Date: 21/08/2025