

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

GUIDELINES EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM RECOMMENDATIONS

As outlined in the guidelines manual NICE has a duty to take reasonable action to avoid unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunities. The purpose of this form is to document that equalities issues have been considered in the recommendations of a clinical guideline.

Taking into account **each** of the equality characteristics below the form needs:

- To confirm that equality issues identified in the scope have been addressed in the evidence reviews or other evidence underpinning the recommendations
- To ensure the recommendations do not discriminate against any of the equality groups
- To highlight areas where recommendations may promote equality.

This form is completed by the National Collaborating Centre and the Guideline Development Group **for each guideline** before consultation, and amended following consultation to incorporate any additional points or issues raised by stakeholders.

The final version is submitted with the final guideline, signed by the NCC Director and the Guideline Development Group (GDG) Chair, to be countersigned by the GRP chair and the the guideline lead from the Centre for Clinical Practice.

EQUALITY CHARACTERISTICS
<p>Sex/gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women • Men
<p>Ethnicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asian or Asian British • Black or black British • People of mixed race • Irish • White British • Chinese • Other minority ethnic groups not listed
<p>Disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory • Learning disability • Mental health • Cognitive • Mobility • Other impairment
<p>Age¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people • Children and young people • Young adults <p>^{1.} Definitions of age groups may vary according to policy or other context.</p>
<p>Sexual orientation & gender identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesbians • Gay men • Bisexual people • Transgender people
<p>Religion and belief</p>
<p>Socio-economic status</p> <p>Depending on policy or other context, this may cover factors such as social exclusion and deprivation associated with geographical areas (e.g. the Spearhead Group of local authorities and PCTs, neighbourhood renewal fund areas etc) or inequalities or variations associated with other geographical distinctions (e.g. the North/South divide, urban versus rural).</p>
<p>Other categories²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travellers • Refugees and asylum seekers • Migrant workers • Looked after children • Homeless people <p>^{2.} This list is illustrative rather than comprehensive.</p>

GUIDELINES EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM: RECOMMENDATIONS

Guideline title: TLoC – Transient Loss of Consciousness

1. Have the equality areas identified in the scope as needing attention been addressed in the guideline?

Please confirm whether

- The evidence reviews addressed the areas that had been identified in the scope as needing specific attention with regard to equalities issues.
Please note this also applies to consensus work in or outside the GDG
- the development group has considered these areas in their discussions

There are some diagnostic methods that are less effective in older people based on the evidence. These are made clear and alternatives given.

The scope asked the GDG to consider people with learning disabilities which they did and have provided guidance on how they may present with a different history. The GDG considered that the investigations and management were the same.

Note: some issues of language may correlate with ethnicity; and some communication issues may correlate with disability

2. Do any recommendations make it impossible or unreasonably difficult in practice for a specific group to access a test or intervention?

For example:

- Does access to the intervention depend on membership of a specific group?
- Does using a particular test discriminate unlawfully against a group?
- Do people with disabilities find it impossible or unreasonably difficult to receive an intervention?

No

3. Do the recommendations promote equality?

Please state if the recommendations are formulated so as to promote

equalities, for example by making access more likely for certain groups, or by tailoring the intervention to specific groups?

- There are rare heart conditions which affect young adults, which present as a TLoC. As they are rare, it can be assumed that the person has simply fainted with fatal results. Many of the members of the patient organisations are parents who have lost children through mis-diagnosis or through delay due the condition being treated as non-urgent. It can be argued that children and young people with this condition, similar to those with childhood cancers, are discriminated against because of the rarity of serious conditions in these age groups. This guideline clarifies this area and should assist in a prompt and correct diagnosis for these young people.
- TLoC is also prevalent amongst older people and can be hard to distinguish from a Fall. The guideline addresses the issue of medication contributing to a TLoC.
- No evidence was found that TLoC should be investigated differently for different races or gender.

Signed:

Ian Bullock

Centre Director

Dr Paul Cooper

GDG Chair

Approved and signed off:

Philip Alderson

CCP Lead

Peter Robb

GRP Chair