

GUIDELINES EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM:

SCOPING

Guideline title: Feverish illness in children: assessment and initial management in children younger than 5 years

1. Have relevant equality issues been identified during scoping?

Attempts have been made to identify any relevant equality issues for each of the topic areas that are being updated.

One specific concern that has been identified by stakeholders is that the opinion of parents/carers are treated equally irrespective of their background when reporting symptoms and signs.

In addition, the NCC is aware that issues relating to race (different signs and symptoms), mental and physical disability, or religion (physical assessment) may impact on the interpretation of evidence by the GDG.

2. If there are exclusions listed in the scope (for example, populations, treatments or settings) are these justified?

The guideline is restricted to a specific age-group, those under 5 years of age, presenting with fever, as this group has been identified as causing the most concern for parents and for health professionals, and was the basis of the original remit sent by the Department of Health.

In addition, a number of specific exclusions are outlined for groups where the cause of fever is known and/or specialist management is required. For example, it is assumed those already admitted to hospital or with pre-existing known cause of fever will have established management plans. Children with recurring fever or those with suspected tropical diseases require specialist management outside the scope of this guideline.

3. Have relevant bodies and stakeholders been consulted?

Stakeholders were consulted about the draft scope at a stakeholder workshop and further

comments received via the consultation process. Both these processes were open to all stakeholders. The guideline update process had been advertised via NICEs website and through direct e-mails to all registered stakeholders.