NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

STA Glycopyrronium bromide cream for treating severe primary axillary hyperhidrosis [ID6487]

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?

The following potential equality issues were raised at scoping consultation stage:

- the population considered in the scope is adults GPB 1% cream could have the greatest impact when used by adolescents
- hyperhidrosis is often self-managed there are significant out of pocket costs which may lead to inequality based on income and affordability
- there are challenges regarding geographic availability for some current therapies – for example botulinum toxin, which is available in some areas but not others

The committee are bound by the indication wording in the marketing authorisation. Inequality based on income or geographic availability are both important considerations, but not related to the protected characteristics in the Equalities Act 2010. The committee was aware that 20% aluminium chloride hexahydrate preparations are not available on the NHS and are purchased by patients from community pharmacies. The economic evaluation considers the costs to the NHS and personal social services with glycopyrronium bromide cream compared with treatments used in the NHS. The committee considered that some people with the condition may have difficulty accessing botulinum toxin because it is not available in all hospitals.

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If GPB cream had been recommended, it would have been an additional treatment option that could have been used in primary and secondary care. Because this recommendation applies to all people with the condition, it does not restrict access to treatment for some people over others. So, committee agreed this was not a potential equalities issue.

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 other potential equality issues raised.

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

Yes, the committee considered whether hyperhidrosis was more common by sex or ethnicity, but experts at the committee meeting explained that there were no clear differences based on these factors.

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

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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 draft guidance, and, if so, where?

Yes – please see draft guidance section 3.19.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Emily Crowe

Date: 07/11/2025

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