

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Evaluation

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

Cemiplimab for adjuvant treatment of high-risk cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma after surgery and radiotherapy ID6659

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation according to the principles of the NICE Equality scheme.

<p>1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (draft scope consultation and scoping workshop discussion), and, if so, what are they?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The company noted that some groups are disproportionately affected, particularly:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ older people, who may also have frailty, comorbidities or disabilities that can worsen outcomes and so may be disproportionately affected by cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. Age and disability are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.○ people who experience occupational ultraviolet exposure, such as in agricultural work. This a major risk factor for developing cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. Occupational exposure is not a protected characteristic under the Equality Act.• A stakeholder noted the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Treatment should be started and monitored in specialist secondary care (dermatology or oncology) with access to immunotherapy expertise and toxicity management. This reflects current pathways for cemiplimab and other immune checkpoint inhibitors.○ Squamous cell carcinoma mainly affects older people, and immunosuppressed groups such as transplant recipients are at increased risk of aggressive disease and recurrence. Clear guidance will be important to support equitable access and appropriate risk–benefit assessment for these populations.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee?

The committee can only appraise the technology within its marketing authorisation and based on the evidence available. The committee will consider whether its recommendation has any impact on potential equality issues or health inequalities.

3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the stakeholder list been made?

No

Approved by Associate Director (name): Ian Watson

Date: 16 April 2026