

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

DIAGNOSTICS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

KardiaMobile 6L for measuring QT interval in people having antipsychotic medication

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

- 1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (scoping workshop discussion, assessment subgroup discussion), and, if so, what are they?**

For the intervention technology:

- The KardiaMobile 6L may not be suitable for use in people with upper limb amputations or missing fingers
- The accuracy of readings taken using the KardiaMobile 6L may be adversely affected if a person has a skin condition causing irritation, inflammation, or very dry skin
- The KardiaMobile 6L may not perform correctly for people with a pacemaker or implantable defibrillator.
- KardiaMobile 6L readings from people with tremors or difficulty sitting still may be inaccurate

For the comparator technology:

- Devices that use torso electrodes may need people with significant body hair to shave for adequate contact with the skin
- People may be uncomfortable with undressing for an ECG that requires torso electrodes for a variety of reasons, including:
 - Culture or religion
 - Having a different gender to the ECG operator
 - Having a different gender identity to their birth sex
 - Experiencing hyper-sensitivity due to a neurodiverse condition
 - Having a history of trauma or sexual abuse.
- People from minority ethnic backgrounds, particularly people of African and African-Caribbean family background living in the UK, are more likely than white British people to be diagnosed with

schizophrenia. They are also more likely to be detained, given medication against their will, or given higher doses

- Neurodiverse people (for example those with autism spectrum disorder) may be more likely to have antipsychotic medication than the general population
- Women typically have a longer QT interval than men and therefore may be more susceptible to the effects of QT-prolonging medication
- Antipsychotic medication is likely to be given to people affected by postpartum psychosis
- The KardiaMobile 6L instructions for use state that the device has not been tested for and is not intended for paediatric use, therefore the scope has been restricted to adults only.

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

Potential equality issues will be noted by the committee and inform discussions where appropriate.

Some of the equality issues are directly addressed by the new technology (those relating to undressing or torso electrodes), which could provide an opportunity to promote equality.

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

New equality issues have been highlighted in section 7. Test failure rate has been included as an outcome. Where data are available on reasons for test failure this can be examined to see whether the failure rate has a disproportionate impact for some groups.

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?

Additional stakeholders relating to the potential equality issues raised during scoping (neurodiversity, gender identity, culture and religion, trauma or sexual abuse) will be invited to participate in the assessment.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Rebecca Albrow

Date: 25/02/2022