

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment

IPG750 Trabeculectomy with a biodegradable collagen matrix implant for glaucoma

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

Briefing

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the briefing process (development of the brief or discussion at the committee meeting), and, if so, what are they?

Glaucoma may be primary or secondary to other conditions. It is the second most common eye condition causing visual impairment and primary open angle glaucoma (POAG) is the most common type of glaucoma, accounting for 70% of cases in the UK. Primary angle closure glaucoma (PACG) affects about 0.4% of people in the UK.

Age: Glaucoma can affect all ages but is more common in adults. The incidence of POAG increases with age and affects about 2% of the population over the age of 40 but about half of these cases are undiagnosed. It most commonly presents after the age of 65, and accounts for 9-12% of registrations for severe visual impairment in the UK. PACG also increases with age and affects about 0.94% of those aged 70 years and older.

Gender: POAG affects both sexes equally. However, women are 3 times more likely than men to develop PACG due to their shallow anterior chambers.

Ethnicity: some ethnic groups have increased incidence of glaucoma. People of East Asian and Inuit ethnicity have an increased incidence of PACG (20-40 times in the Inuit), but a low incidence of POAG. POAG is 3-4 times more common in people of African or Afro-Caribbean ethnicity, in whom it tends to present earlier and be more severe.

A positive family history of glaucoma, central corneal thickness <0.5mm, myopia, diabetes, hypertension or other vascular problems and prolonged

use of steroids are considered to be possible risk factors for developing glaucoma.

Disability: People with glaucoma are likely to be covered by the Equality Act 2010 if their eyesight is severely impaired or have a co-existing condition or disability e.g. diabetes or mobility difficulties that have a substantial adverse impact on normal day to day activities for over 12 months or are likely to do so. Also, regulations provide for a person who is certified as blind, severely sight impaired, sight impaired or partially sighted by a consultant ophthalmologist to be deemed to have a disability.

Religion/belief: the collagen matrix implant used contains animal (porcine) collagen so may not be acceptable to those with certain religious beliefs or strict vegetarians.

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the committee? (If there are exclusions listed in the brief (for example, populations, treatments or settings), are these justified?)

The IFU states that safety has not been established in pregnant women, infants and children, and advise that any medication that interferes with the porous structure or the cross-linking configuration of ologen™ (e.g. prostaglandin analogues) may change the rate of absorption and degradation.

3. Has any change to the brief (such as additional issues raised during the committee meeting) been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No

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

No

Kevin Harris

Approved by Programme Director and Clinical Advisor

Date: 19/10/2022

Consultation

1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the briefing process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how?

No specific data relating to potential issues mentioned earlier was identified in the literature presented in the overview.

2. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the overview, specialist adviser questionnaires or patient commentary, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No

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

No

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access a technology or intervention 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?
Not applicable

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 obligation to promote equality?
Not applicable

7. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the consultation document, and, if so, where?
No

Kevin Harris

Approved by Programme Director and Clinical Advisor

Date: 19/10/2022

Final interventional procedures document

1. Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No

2. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access a technology or intervention compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

Not applicable

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, 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?

Not applicable

4. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access identified in questions 2 and 3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable

5. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final interventional procedures document, and, if so, where?

Yes, in section 3.7 of the guidance the committee noted that ‘most of the evidence was from adults with open angle glaucoma, and that the safety of the device used has not been established in pregnant women, infants and children’.

Anastasia Chalkidou

Approved by Associate Director

Date: 07/11/2022