

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment

IPG430 Partial replacement of the meniscus of the knee using a biodegradable scaffold

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

Scoping

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

Some people with partial meniscus loss or damage may be covered by the equalities legislation.

Gender: the incidence of meniscal tears is higher in males than females.

Age: More than one third of all meniscal tears are associated with an anterior cruciate ligament injury, with a peak incidence in men aged 21–30 years and in girls and women aged 11–20 years. Degenerative types of meniscal tears commonly occur in men aged between 40 and 60 years.

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 scope (for example, populations, treatments or settings), are these justified?

This was not thought to have an impact on the assessment of the procedure. No exclusions were applied

3. Has any change to the scope (such as additional issues raised during

the Committee meeting) been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No

Consultation

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

No specific data relating to issues identified above 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?

The lay member of the Committee noted that some implants were made of collagen derived from animal sources and may not be acceptable to all faith groups.

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

The Committee noted that needs and outcomes for young active patients and older patients with meniscal degeneration may be different.

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 access for the specific group?

No

5. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 4, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to promote equality?

Not applicable

6. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the consultation document, and, if so, where?

No

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 access for the specific group?

Not applicable

3. If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to access identified in question 2,

or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?
Not applicable

4. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final interventional procedures document, and, if so, where?
No

Approved by Centre or Programme Director:

Date: 29/05/2012