

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Medical technologies evaluation programme

### Equality impact assessment: Guidance development

#### MT477 Alpha-Stim AID for anxiety disorders

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation according to the principles of the [NICE Equality scheme](#).

#### Medical technology consultation document

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

No equality issues were raised during the scoping process. During draft scope consultation, it was highlighted that people with poor dexterity and people with certain co-morbidities would need support to be able to use the device. The device is not currently available in the NHS, and people may be indirectly disadvantaged not being able to access this as a treatment option. The accessibility of the device was included in the equality consideration in the scope.

2. Have any other potential equality issues been highlighted in the sponsor's submission, or patient organisation questionnaires, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No action required.

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

No action required.

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.

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?

Not applicable.

7. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the medical technology consultation document, and, if so, where?

Not applicable.

**Approved by Acting Associate Director:** Chris Chesters

**Date:** 7 January 2021

## Medical technology guidance document

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

No equality issues were raised during consultation. The company suggested the research recommendation may deny the opportunity to use the device in people who are unable to afford to purchase the device. The accessibility of the device has been included in the equality consideration in the scope.

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 the technology compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to access for the specific group?

N/A

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?

N/A

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?

N/A

5. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the medical technology guidance document, and, if so, where?

.N/A

**Approved by Acting Associate Director:** Chris Chesters

**Date:** 7 January 2021