

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Medical technologies evaluation programme

Equality impact assessment: Topic selection and scoping

MT461 Endo-SPONGE for treating colorectal anastomotic leakage

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

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the topic briefing note or during selection, and, if so, what are they?

People having colorectal surgery will have an underlying condition such as inflammatory bowel disease. People who have been diagnosed with chronic diseases may be considered disabled under the Equality Act. Colorectal anastomotic leakage is more common in men; gender is a protected characteristic under the equality act.

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

No equality issues have been identified

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

During draft scope consultation, it was highlighted that patients with significant co-morbidities may particularly benefit from the Endo SPONGE system because they are at high risk for further surgery. The issue has been included in the other special considerations section of the decision problem.

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?

It was also noted during scope consultation that people who have serious mental health conditions, learning difficulties or cognitive impairment such as dementia may not receive the claimed benefits. Some of them would probably require deep sedation or general anaesthesia, and some of them may even be considered unsuitable for this procedure. However, these were not considered equality issues, as the company noted that patients would be assessed by clinicians for their eligibility for the procedure.

Approved by Programme Director: Mirella Marlow

Date: 10 December 2019