

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES EVALUATION PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

The PleurX peritoneal catheter drainage system for vacuum-assisted drainage of treatment-resistant, recurrent malignant ascites

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

Consultation

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

The Committee recognised that patients with malignant ascites have a disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010 because of the effect of the condition on activities of daily living. In addition, patients with cancer are protected under the Equality Act 2010 from the point of diagnosis. In four out of five patients with malignant ascites, the disease is caused by ovarian carcinoma or gastrointestinal tumours.

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

No additional equality issues were highlighted in the manufacturer's submission or in patient organisation questionnaires.

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

No additional potential equality issues were highlighted by the Committee.

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 access for the specific group?

Not applicable - the preliminary recommendations do not hinder access to the technology for any specific group.

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 obligations to promote equality?

Not applicable

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

In section 3.16 of the consultation document, the Committee recognised that treatment-resistant, recurrent malignant ascites may have an adverse impact on patients performing activities of daily living and that these patients are therefore likely to be covered by equalities legislation.

Approved by Associate Director: Mark Campbell

Date: 14th March 2011

Medical technologies guidance document

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

No further potential equality issues were identified during the consultation process.

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?

The recommendations do not hinder access to the technology for any specific group.

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 - the recommendations do not hinder access to the technology for any specific group.

4. Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the medical technologies guidance document, and, if so, where?

In section 3.12, the Committee noted that patients with malignant ascites have a disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010.

Approved by Programme Director: Mirella Marlow

Date: 14th March 2012