

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

NICE guidelines

Surgical Site Infections: Prevention and Treatment (CG74)

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

3.0 Guideline development: before consultation (to be completed by the Developer before consultation on the draft guideline)

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

Not applicable as there was no scoping process for this update.

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

The committee identified a number of potential equality issues, including:

- Learning difficulties which impact on the ability to use certain interventions
- Language barriers may impact on the ability to use certain interventions
- Older people who live alone may find it difficult to utilise some interventions
- Some interventions should be utilised with care in neonates and infants.

With regards, older people, people with learning difficulties and people in whom English may be a second language, some healthcare settings can provide assistance to allow people to effectively use the interventions.

In terms of the use of certain interventions in neonates and infants, the committee recommended healthcare professionals to consider the risks associated with the use

3.2 Have any **other** potential equality issues (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) been identified, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

of skin antiseptics before usage.

3.3 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the guideline for consultation, and, if so, where?

Yes – in the "other factors the committee took into account" section of the committee's discussion of the evidence.

3.4 Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

The committee did not identify the preliminary recommendations to make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups. The new recommendations were identified to be more reflective of what is currently being done in practice and highlight the risks associated with the use of certain interventions.

3.5 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?

The committee did identify that people with disabilities may find it difficult to apply certain interventions, but did state that services are available that can assist people in adequately using interventions before surgery.

3.6 Are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in questions 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

No other recommendations or explanations could be made.

Completed by Developer:

Susan Spiers

Date:

3.10.18

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead:

Date:

4.0 Final guideline (to be completed by the Developer before GE consideration of final guideline)

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

No additional equality issues were raised by stakeholders during draft guideline consultation. A comment was made on the suitability of antiseptic skin preparation for neonates, however the guideline already has a recommendation stating – Be aware of the risks of using skin antiseptics in babies, in particular the risk of severe chemical injuries with the use of chlorhexidine (both alcohol-based and aqueous solutions) in preterm babies.

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

Amendments made to the recommendations post consultation have not resulted in any difficulties in accessing services. The committee were keen to promote and ensure equal access to effective and cost effective treatments for all.

4.3 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, is there potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No, we do not envisage any adverse impact on people with disabilities.

4.4 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 to services identified in questions 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

It was not necessary to make recommendations or explanations, as outlined in section 4.2, the recommendations post consultation have not resulted in any difficulties in accessing services.

4.5 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final guideline, and, if so, where?

The Committee's consideration of equality issues is detailed in the committee discussion sections of the evidence reviews and in the why the committee made the recommendations sections in the final guideline.

Updated by Developer: Sue Spiers

Date: 16 January 2019

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kay Nolan

Date: 14 March 2019