

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

NICE guidelines

Equality and health inequalities assessment (EHIA)

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage (update)

The considerations and potential impact on equality and health inequalities have been considered throughout the guidance development, maintenance and update process according to the principles of the NICE equality policy and those outlined in [Developing NICE guidelines: the manual](#).

This EHIA relates to:

The use of anti-D prophylaxis in pregnant people with a threatened miscarriage, miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy in the first trimester.

STAGE 2. Informing the scope

(to be completed by the Developer, and submitted with the draft scope for consultation, if this is applicable)

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage

Date of completion: 16th June 2025

Focus of guideline or update: The use of anti-D rhesus prophylaxis in pregnant people with a threatened miscarriage, miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy in the first

For short updates where there is no scoping workshop or scope consultation, questions relating to these in stage 2 can be noted 'not applicable'.

2.1 What approaches have been used to identify potential equality and health inequalities issues during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope?

Equalities impact assessments were undertaken for the guideline updates in 2023, 2021, and the original guideline in 2019.
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Information on equality and health inequalities was identified via non-systematic literature searches and through discussion with topic experts.
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2.2 What potential equality and health inequalities issues have been identified during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope?
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Anti-D immunoglobulin is a blood product; some faith groups do not allow the receipt of blood products.

Geographical location and proximity of services could lead to barriers to people accessing anti-D prophylaxis.
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Some groups of people may need to return to hospital for anti-D prophylaxis; this may be complicated by their geographical location (or that of the service provider), the cost of attending services (socioeconomic factors) or caring responsibilities, for example.

2.3 How can the identified equality and health inequalities issues be further explored and considered at this stage of the development process?

The committee will consider specific issues relating to inequalities noted in section 2.2 in their discussions on the use of anti-D prophylaxis.

2.4 Do you have representation from stakeholder groups that can help to explore equality and health inequalities issues during the consultation process including groups who are known to be affected by these issues? If not, what plans are in place to address gaps in the stakeholder list?

Not applicable as no consultation is planned.

2.5 How will the views and experiences of those affected by equality and health inequalities issues be meaningfully included in the guideline development process going forward?

The guideline committee has members with lived experience of women's and reproductive health issues. We are aware that experience of receiving anti-D prophylaxis is a very specific issue and therefore we will discuss other ways that views and experiences of those affected by equality and health inequalities issues can be involved with the people and communities team. We will ensure that relevant stakeholders are registered to comment on the draft guideline recommendations.

2.6 If applicable, what questions will you ask at the draft scope stakeholder consultation about the guideline/update and potential impact on equality and health inequalities?

Not Applicable

2.7 Has it been proposed to exclude any population groups from the scope? If yes, how do these exclusions relate to any equality and health inequalities issues identified?

Not proposed to exclude any population groups from the scope.

Completed by developer: Sara Buckner

Date: 16th June 2025

Approved by committee chair: Sarah Fishburn

Date: 26th August 2025

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kate Kelley

Date: 2nd July 2025

STAGE 4. Development of guideline or topic area for update

(to be completed by the developer before consultation on the draft guideline or update)

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage (update)

Date of completion: 11th December 2025

Focus of guideline or update: anti-D immunoglobulin prophylaxis

4.1 From the evidence syntheses and the committee's considerations thereof, what were the main equality and health inequalities issues identified? Were any **further** potential issues identified (in addition to those identified during the scoping process) or any gaps in the evidence for any particular group?

No evidence was identified concerning the main equality and health inequalities considered.

The committee discussed that anti-D immunoglobulin is a blood product, and as such may not be accepted by some people.

The committee also discussed that some geographical location and proximity of services could lead to barriers to people accessing anti-D prophylaxis, including cost of attending appointments and caring responsibilities.

The committee's consideration regarding this is detailed in the evidence review for anti-D immunoglobulin prophylaxis.

4.2 How have the committee's considerations of equality and health inequalities issues identified in 2.2, 3.2 and 4.1 been reflected in the guideline or update and any draft recommendations?

The committee's discussions of equality and health inequalities issues are in recommendation 1.7.4 and accompanying rationale. The recommendation outlines that the use of anti-D immunoglobulin should be discussed with the person, and that the discussion should include that it is a protein obtained from blood plasma and it does not contain blood cells.

4.3 Could any draft recommendations potentially increase inequalities?

None of the draft recommendations are considered to potentially increase inequalities.

4.4 How has the committee's considerations of equality and health inequalities issues identified in 2.2, 3.2 and 4.1 been reflected in the development of any research recommendations?

No research recommendations were made.

4.5 Based on the equality and health inequalities issues identified in 2.2, 3.2 and 4.1, do you have representation from relevant stakeholder groups for the guideline or update consultation process, including groups who are known to be affected by these issues? If not, what plans are in place to ensure relevant stakeholders are represented and included?

Yes. The guideline development team, advisory committee and people and communities team have identified all relevant stakeholder groups affected by these issues.

4.6 What questions will you ask at the stakeholder consultation about the impact of the guideline or update on equality and health inequalities?

We will ask stakeholders whether the guideline update is anticipated to increase any existing equalities or health inequalities issues.

Completed by developer: Sara Buckner

Date: 11th December 2025

Approved by committee chair: Sarah Fishburn

Date: 16th January 2026

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Kate Kelley

Date: 12th January 2026

STAGE 5. Revisions and final guideline or update

(to be completed by the topic team before guidance executive considers the final guideline or update)

Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage (update)

Date of completion: 7th May 2026

Focus of guideline or update: anti-D immunoglobulin prophylaxis

5.1 How inclusive was the consultation process on the draft guideline in terms of response from groups (identified in box 2.2, 3.2 and 4.1) who may experience inequalities related to the topic?

Open consultation was undertaken for a period of 2 weeks, where all registered stakeholders were invited to comment on the draft guidance. The registered stakeholders included key groups who may experience inequalities.

5.2 Have any **further** equality and health inequalities issues beyond those identified at scoping and during development been raised during the consultation on the draft guideline or update, and, if so, how has the committee considered and addressed them?

No further equality and health inequalities issues beyond those identified at scoping and during development were raised during consultation.

5.3 If any recommendations have changed after consultation, how could these changes impact on equality and health inequalities issues?

Minor changes were made to clarify populations included in recommendation 1.7.1, and to make clear that a dose of at least 250 IU of anti-D should be used (rather than stipulating that a dose of 250 IU should be used). These changes do not impact on equality and health inequalities issues.

5.4 Following the consultation on the draft guideline and response to questions 4.1 and 5.2, have there been any further committee considerations of equality and health inequalities issues across the four dimensions that have been reflected in the final guideline?

No further issues have been identified.

5.5 Please provide a summary of the key equality and health inequalities issues that should be highlighted in the guidance executive report before sign-off of the final guideline or update

There are no key equality and health inequalities issues that should be highlighted in the guidance executive report.

Completed by topic team: Sara Buckner

Date: 7th May 2026

Approved by committee chair: Sarah Fishburn

Date: 21st May 2026

Approved by NICE CFG topic hub associate director: Kate Kelley

Date: 04th June 2026