

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Acne Vulgaris: Management

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

1.0 Checking for updates and scope: before scope consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the draft scope for consultation)

1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the check for an update or during development of the draft scope, and, if so, what are they?

The following groups were identified and discussed in relation to potential equality issues, when drafting the guideline scope:

- people with darker skin colour because post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation may occur as a result of acne
- people whose first language is not English because they may find it difficult to access services
- Transgender people particularly in relation to pregnancy tests when using isotretinoin

Exclusions specified in the scope with possible impact on equality

- Newborn babies were excluded because acne vulgaris in this population is rare (approximately less than 1% of all people with acne vulgaris), is more temporary, and has different causes than acne vulgaris in children, young people and adults.
- The management of mental health conditions precipitated or exacerbated by acne vulgaris will not be covered in the guideline because this would not be specifically related to the management of acne vulgaris, but rather to the management of the specific mental health condition.
- The treatment of acne vulgaris related scarring in newborn babies was excluded from the scope because acne vulgaris in babies is rare, only some babies may have acne vulgaris related scars, and the treatment for scarring in this group is a specialist area which is likely to differ to the treatment of acne

vulgaris related scaring in older people.

1.2 What is the preliminary view on the extent to which these potential equality issues need addressing by the Committee? For example, if population groups, treatments or settings are excluded from the scope, are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

The guideline will look for any specific evidence related to groups of people identified as groups that may require equality considerations. None of the groups will be excluded from the guideline and the committee will consider these groups in their discussions.

The management of the mental health conditions precipitated or exacerbated by acne vulgaris is covered in other guidelines to which the committee may want to cross-refer. The committee will consider emotional wellbeing as an outcome related to the management of acne vulgaris and will therefore take into consideration the emotional impact that this condition has.

The principles of good communication with adults is already addressed in the NICE guideline on [Patient experience in adult NHS services: improving the experience of care for people using adult NHS services](#) to which we will cross reference in relation to people whose first language is not English. The committee may draw up specific recommendations related to children and young adults whose first language is not English in relation to communication and information provision specifically related to acne vulgaris and its management.

Completed by Developer: Katharina Dworzynski

Date: 20/09/2018

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Chris Carson

Date: 21/09/2018