NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

NICE has a duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between particular population groups. The purpose of this form is to document the consideration of equality issues at each stage of the guideline development process. This equality impact assessment is designed to support NICE's compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998, and to provide the Guidance Executive of NICE with assurance of compliance.

The table below lists the characteristics and other equality factors NICE needs to consider. It covers not just population groups sharing the 'protected characteristics' defined in the Equality Act but also those affected by health inequalities and inequities in access to health, public health and care services associated with socioeconomic factors and with other forms of disadvantage. Although listed separately, these categories often overlap.

The form is used to:

- record equality issues raised in connection with the guideline by anybody involved
- demonstrate that these issues have been given due consideration by explaining what impact they have had on the guideline's recommendations, or why there was no impact
- give assurance that the recommendations will not discriminate against any equality group
- highlight recommendations aimed at advancing equality of opportunity or fostering good relations.

The equality impact assessment should be completed by the Developer and Committee Chair. NICE quality assurance staff must sign off the completed equality impact assessment before the form is published on NICE's website.

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Protected characteristics

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

Note:

- 1) The characteristic of marriage and civil partnership is protected only from unlawful discrimination. There is no legal requirement to consider the need to advance equality and foster good relations.
- 2) The definition of direct discrimination covers less favourable treatment of someone associated with a person with a protected characteristic, such as the carer of a disabled person.

Socioeconomic factors

The relevance and nature of socioeconomic factors will vary according to the guideline topic. They may include deprivation and disadvantage associated with particular geographical areas or other geographical distinctions (for example, urban versus rural).

Other definable characteristics

Certain groups in the population experience poor health because of circumstances distinct from – though often affected by – sharing a protected characteristic or socioeconomic factors. The defining characteristics of groups of this sort will emerge from the evidence (although, on occasions, a guideline topic will explicitly cover such a group). Examples of groups identified in recent NICE guidelines are:

- refugees
- asylum seekers
- migrant workers
- looked-after children
- people who are homeless
- prisoners and young offenders.

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NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Cerebral Palsy: diagnosis and management in children and young people

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

2.0 Checking for updates and scope: after consultation (to be completed by the Developer and submitted with the revised scope)

2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during consultation, and, if so, what are they?

Please see other signed form after consultation of the draft scope.

2.2 Have any changes to the scope been made as a result of consultation to highlight potential equality issues?

Please see other signed form after consultation of the draft scope.

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2.3 Is the primary focus of the guideline a population with a specific disabilityrelated communication need?

If so, is an alternative version of the 'information for the public' recommended?

If so, which alternative version is recommended?

The alternative versions available are:

- large font or audio versions for a population with sight loss
- British Sign Language videos for a population deaf from birth
- 'Easy read' versions for people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment.

Please see other signed form after consultation of the draft scope.

Updated by Developer: Vanessa Delgado Nunes

Date: 15 October 2014

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Sarah Willett

Date: 04 August 2016