

## 1.0.7 DOC EIA

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## NICE guidelines

### Equality impact assessment

#### Air pollution: outdoor air quality and health

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

#### **1.0 Scope: before 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 development of the draft scope, before consultation, and, if so, what are they?

Socio-economic: distribution of exposure may be linked with measures of socioeconomic disadvantage. Impact of air pollutants is greater in those with pre-existing conditions and so likely to be larger in those in socioeconomic disadvantage. Sources of air pollution will vary with socioeconomic populations with greater number of multiple car owning families in higher socioeconomic groups; however vehicle age is likely to be older in disadvantaged groups (and so vehicles may be more polluting per mile driven).

Urban/rural: exposure to air pollution will vary with level of urbanisation (higher levels of particulate and NOx pollution in many urban areas, but higher levels of ozone likely in rural areas). The linkage between socioeconomic disadvantage, rural/urban living and air pollution is likely to be complex.

Age: impact of air pollution is likely to be greater among older people, and potentially among infants and possibly pregnant women.

Other: exposure to air pollutants will vary depending on factors such as time spent in different activities (driving, indoors, being active outside).

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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?

Issues identified above will need to be discussed by the committee during development of recommendations in light of evidence identified.

Completed by Developer: Hugo Crombie

Date 10/7/2015

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date 10/7/2015

## 2.0 Scope: after consultation (To be completed by the developer and submitted with the final scope)

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

Stakeholders noted that in addition to people living in pollution 'hotspots' those working in hotspots might be at particular risk. In addition those living in areas outside 'hotspots' may experience ill health as a result of air pollution.

Stakeholders noted that some groups, such as those with pre-existing conditions, were likely to be particularly affected by air pollution.

The impacts of air pollution might be seen across the life-course, including prenatally. At risk groups include pregnant women, children and deprived communities.

Stakeholders noted that the impact of air pollution is not restricted to deprived areas and that it may be greater in some affluent areas. Individuals are frequently exposed to air pollution that they have not had a role in generating.

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

The scope has been clarified to include the whole population as well as people living or working in pollution hot spot areas.

Additional emphasis on people with pre-existing conditions (and inclusion of interventions to provide information or warnings to these groups has been added).

Where evidence allows a consideration of impacts on specific groups, including pre-natally or in pregnant women, this will be included.

Brief clarification and discussion of the equality aspects of the distribution and exposure to air pollution have been added.

2.3 Is the primary focus of the guideline a population with a specific disability-related communication need?

If so, is an alternative version of the 'Information for the Public' document 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 who are deaf from birth;
- 'Easy read' versions for people with learning disabilities or cognitive impairment.

No

Updated by Developer: Hugo Crombie

Date: 11/9/2015

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead Simon Ellis

Date 16/9/2015

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