

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### STA Fluocinolone acetonide ocular implant for treating chronic recurrent non-infectious uveitis

The impact on equality has been assessed during this appraisal according to the principles of the NICE equality scheme.

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process (draft scope consultation and scoping workshop discussion), and, if so, what are they?

During the scoping process, the following issues were raised:

- Uveitis has a high degree of heterogeneity and a 'one pathway covers all' approach may delay and restrict the most appropriate treatment judged on clinical merit.
- Blindness is a major disability that impacts medical and social resource utilisation, therefore the impact of uveitis treatments that prevent recurrence and delay the onset of blindness should be considered.
- The treatment needs to be available to all who could benefit from it, irrelevant of the type of non-infectious uveitis they have and whether or not they have associated systemic conditions.
- Patients who have had difficulties taking oral corticosteroids would particularly benefit from placement of an intravitreal implant because it ensures treatment compliance.
- If technologies are not made available it would lead to inequity in access to sight-saving treatment, because only patients able to afford private treatment would have access

2. What is the preliminary view as to what extent these potential equality issues need addressing by the committee?

The appraisal committee does not make recommendations based on financial status. Therefore the inequity in access because of financial status is not an equality issue that can be addressed in a technology appraisal.

Technology Appraisals: Scoping

Equality impact assessment for the proposed single technology appraisal of fluocinolone acetonide ocular implant for treating recurrent non-infectious uveitis

Issue date: September 2018

It is not expected that an appraisal of fluocinolone acetonide ocular implant will impose any restrictions in terms of the access to treatment for specific groups, because the technology will be appraised in line with its marketing authorisations. Any disproportionate impact of the recommendations on people with protected characteristics under the equalities legislation will be taken into account by the appraisal committee.

3. Has any change to the draft scope been agreed to highlight potential equality issues?

No.

4. Have any additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues been identified during the scoping process, and, if so, have changes to the matrix been made?

No.

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Frances Sutcliffe.....

**Date:** 21/09/2018