

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

STA Risdiplam for treating spinal muscular atrophy [ID1631]

Batch 71

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, if so, what are they?

Stakeholders highlighted that, because SMA affects each person differently including those with the same type, all people with SMA should have equal opportunity for access.

Stakeholders commented that based on the current available trial evidence, the marketing authorisation may be restricted to those aged under 25 years, which may result in inequitable access to the treatment for those aged 25 years or older.

Stakeholders commented that as the SMA patient population includes people with disabilities, this should be considered by the committee as part of its decision-making.

Stakeholders commented that as risdiplam is administered orally, treatment may be more accessible than treatment with nusinersen (which is administered intrathecally and requires patients and carers to travel to hospitals). The technical team considered whether this could be a potential equalities issue, if a positive recommendation of risdiplam would improve access to treatment for groups with protected characteristics who may struggle to access nusinersen. One stakeholder identified that young children with severe SMA were frail and that people with SMA have risks of respiratory infection, meaning that there are challenges in travelling for treatment. However, the technical team concluded that this is not an equalities issue because nusinersen is not a comparator in this appraisal. Further, it is unclear whether intrathecal administration poses any access problems for people with protected characteristics.

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

This appraisal will consider the technology within its marketing authorisation, so if this specifies an age range, this will restrict the committee to making recommendations for this population only. The committee will give consideration to the impact of disability on the appropriateness of the methods required in the reference case and in the committee's wider considerations during the appraisal.

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

No changes to the scope are needed.

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 changes to the stakeholder list are needed.

Approved by Associate Director (name):Ross Dent.....

Date: 20 August 2020