

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE
EXCELLENCE**

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

Equality impact assessment – Guidance development

**STA Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir for treating COVID-19
(Partial Rapid Review of TA878)**

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

Consultation

1. Have the potential equality issues identified during the scoping process been addressed by the committee, and, if so, how?

N/A, this is a rapid review

2. Have any other potential equality issues been raised in the submissions, expert statements or academic report, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

Equality issues were raised in the original appraisal and the committee's consideration of these is in section 3.30 of the FAD.

3. Have any other potential equality issues been identified by the committee, and, if so, how has the committee addressed these?

No.

4. Do the preliminary recommendations make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the technology compared with other

groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

The recommendation for nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir uses a definition of high-risk from the McInnes report that may exclude some people in the marketing authorisation from certain risk groups which may include people with disability which is a protected characteristic. The committee considered this could indirectly discriminate but would be a proportionate means of achieving the legitimate aim of maximising public health - because it did not consider it would be cost-effective in lower-risk populations.

5. Is there potential for the preliminary recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No

6. Are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access identified in questions 4 or 5, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to promote equality?

No

7. Have the committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the draft guidance, and, if so, where?

Yes, section 3.30

Approved by Associate Director (name): Ross Dent

Date: 25/04/2023