

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Medical technologies evaluation programme

### Equality impact assessment: Topic selection and scoping

#### KardiaMobile for detecting atrial fibrillation

The impact on equality has been assessed during this evaluation according to the principles of the [NICE Equality scheme](#).

1. Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the topic briefing note or during selection, and, if so, what are they?

Some people with disabilities or with conditions affecting manual dexterity may not be able to record an electrocardiogram on the KardiaMobile device. The KardiaMobile is not intended for use in children and is contraindicated in people with implantable electronic devices (including pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillator). People whose first language is not included in the app or who cannot read may not be able to communicate recorded information on their symptoms while using the KardiaMobile system. People are not able to use the device if they do not have a compatible smart device to access the KardiaMobile app. Prevalence of atrial fibrillation (AF) increases with age and is greater in men, but the risk of death from AF is slightly higher in women. Disability, age and sex are protected characteristics under the Equality Act (2010).

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

The device may not be suitable for people who cannot remain still or have problems holding the device and may be difficult to use for people who have difficulty reading or cognitive difficulties. The committee should consider the role of carers in using the device at home.

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

During draft scope consultation, it was highlighted that people are not able to use the device if they do not have a compatible smart device to access the KardiaMobile app. The accessibility of the compatible device has been included in the equality consideration in the scope.

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

During draft scope consultation, it was suggested to add Royal College of General Practitioners to the list of stakeholders.

**Approved by Acting Associate Director:** Chris Chesters

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021