

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE guidelines

Equality impact assessment

Otitis media with effusion in under 12s

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

4.0 Final guideline (to be completed by the Developer before GE consideration of final guideline)

4.1 Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation, and, if so, how has the Committee addressed them?

- Disability

Issues around disability were raised during consultation. Cleft palate and Down syndrome were mentioned by stakeholders. Stakeholder comments focussed on how children with Cleft palate and Down syndrome may be of increased risk of OME. When developing the guideline, the committee felt that the guideline was not intended to cover the management of specific populations, such as those with cleft palate or Down syndrome, who may be of increased risk of OME but instead it was intended to cover those presenting with OME in the moment, and each recurrence of OME and this was explained to stakeholders. However, some changes were made in response to stakeholder comments in relation to disability. Recommendation 1.2.3 was amended to mention 'Craniofacial abnormalities, such as Down syndrome or cleft palate' as an example of a presenting feature that might indicate a higher suspicion of OME. Recommendation 1.6.11 was amended to include children with 'craniofacial abnormalities' as an example of children with an increased risk of unrecognised OME with hearing loss who may need an individualised follow-up plan.

4.2 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

None of the revised recommendations will make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services, compared with other groups.

4.3 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, is there potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

None of the revised recommendations have the potential to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities.

4.4 If the recommendations have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in question 4.2, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

None

4.5 Have the Committee's considerations of equality issues been described in the final guideline, and, if so, where?

The modification to the recommendation relating to presenting features (see 4.1) has been described in the committee's discussion of the evidence section of Evidence review B (Recognising OME). The modification to the recommendation relating to an individualised follow up plan (see 4.1) has been described in the committee's discussion of the evidence section of Evidence review M (Follow up after surgery).

Updated by Developer: Tim Reeves

Date: 19/06/23

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Simon Ellis

Date: 14/07/2023