

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## HEALTH TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME

### Equality impact assessment – Scoping

#### **STA Bevacizumab in combination with capecitabine for the first-line treatment of metastatic breast cancer**

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?

No potential equality issues were identified during the August 2011 scoping process.

During the August 2010 scoping consultation, one consultee identified that: “the equality issues relate to the use of bevacizumab as a first line treatment which, if not accepted by NICE, may be offered to patients in the private setting but not for NHS patients. The introduction of co-payments or ‘top ups’ is generally not widely taken up by patients and is often an option that patients find out about only when they have relapsed after first line treatments. If NICE does not approve this drug, people from lower socioeconomic groups will therefore be at a disadvantage and health inequalities will only widen as a result of the differences of access to this therapy.”

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

It is noted that this is a general problem regarding possible access issue rather than an equality issue and therefore will not need addressing by the Committee.

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

No change to the scope was required.

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?

None

**Approved by Associate Director (name):** Helen Knight

**Date:** October 2011