

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE
TECHNOLOGY APPRAISAL PROGRAMME**

Equality impact assessment – Scoping

STA - Aflibercept solution for injection for the treatment of wet age-related macular degeneration

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?

During scoping consultation it was highlighted by consultees that older people, women and smokers are more at risk of developing wet age-related macular degeneration and that the potential use of aflibercept solution for injection (including factors relating to assessment, delivery and follow up) should be thoroughly examined. It was also highlighted that there is evidence of variation in the rates of intravitreal injections by age, gender, location and over time. During the scoping workshop, there was some further discussion of the difficulties encountered by older people and those living in remote areas in terms of attending hospital outpatient visits as part of their treatment monitoring.

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

It was agreed that the issues raised during the scoping consultation and workshop did not constitute an equality consideration under the equalities legislation for the proposed appraisal of this technology.

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

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No further changes to the scope were necessary.

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 additional stakeholders related to potential equality issues were identified during the scoping process.

Approved by Associate Director (name): Frances Sutcliffe

Date: 16 November 2012