

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## Equality impact assessment

### COVID-19 rapid guideline: cystic fibrosis

The impact on equality has been assessed before publication according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

#### **Final guideline (to be completed by the appropriate NICE staff member before GE consideration of final guideline)**

Have any potential equality issues been identified?

#### **Age**

NICE noted that cystic fibrosis is no longer a condition affecting mainly young people, and that many people with the condition now live much longer than previously. The guidance set out to cover all ages. NHS England clinical leads and stakeholders were selected to ensure both paediatric and adult expertise.

The topic lead and guideline commissioning manager are satisfied that none of the recommendations disadvantageously affect any age group. The clinical leads wondered whether 'in children, young people and adults' should be added to the title. To keep the title short this has not been done, but the landing page will include text make the coverage of the guidance clear to users.

#### **Disability**

Stakeholders commented that some people with cystic fibrosis have learning disabilities. The team was also aware that people with cystic fibrosis would meet criteria for disability under the Equality Act. The recommendations were reviewed to ensure that nothing was discriminatory.

People with some learning and developmental disabilities may need reasonable adjustments to care pathways. Some disabled people may have particular communication needs that need consideration when using alternatives to face-to-face contact. Taking these communication needs into account forms part of standard care, so no separate recommendations have been made.

#### **Race/ethnicity**

NICE noted that cystic fibrosis is more common in white northern European populations. But it did not consider that this required any changes to recommendations.

Have any potential equality issues been identified?
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<b>Gender</b>
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NICE noted that women with cystic fibrosis may fare worse than men with cystic fibrosis (from cystic fibrosis itself, not a combination of cystic fibrosis and COVID-19). But it did not consider that the recommendations disadvantaged either group.
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**After Guidance Executive amendments – if applicable (to be completed by appropriate NICE staff member after Guidance Executive)**

Outline amendments agreed by Guidance Executive below, if applicable:
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N/A
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Approved by Developer: Andy Hutchinson (Pharmacist), Medicines Education Technical Adviser, NICE

Date: 23 April 2020

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Eric Power, Programme Director – Medicines and Quality

Date: 13 May 2020