

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Equality impact assessment

COVID-19 rapid guideline: dermatological conditions treated with drugs affecting the immune response

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

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

Have any potential equality issues been identified?

Age

The guideline makes recommendations on minimising risk by offering alternatives to face-to-face services, for example using teledermatology and by providing information online. Older people may find it more difficult to access these services, which may increase feelings of isolation. The guideline attempts to mitigate this by advising several alternative communication methods, including phone consultations.

Older people may need support from families or unpaid carers if a face-to-face consultation is needed. The guideline recommendations allow for this by advising that patients should try to come alone if they can, but allowing for a family member or carer to attend if needed.

Socioeconomic factors

Some people may not have access to home delivery services (for example for medicines) because of where they live (for example, rural areas). The recommendations state alternative ways of delivering medicines, such as postal or courier services, NHS volunteer responders or drive through pick-up points.

Disability

People with some learning and developmental disabilities may need reasonable adjustments to care pathways. Some disabled people may have particular communication needs that need to be taken into account 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.

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:

N/A

Approved by Developer: Cheryl Pace, Implementation Manager, NICE

Date: 21 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