

Equality Impact Assessment of SIGN 50: A guideline developers handbook. Section 6 - systematic literature review

Section 1: Ownership and background

- 1.1 **Title** SIGN 50: A guideline developers handbook. Section 6 - systematic literature review
- 1.2 **Start date** 2012
- 1.3 **Publication date:** February 2013
- 1.4 **Owner** Robin Harbour
- 1.5 **Directorate/unit/committee/group:** Evidence & Improvement
- 1.6 **Related Programme of work:** SIGN guidelines
- 1.7 **Type of work being assessed:** Process

Section 2: Involvement and impact

- 2.1 **Aims of the process :** To set out the processes for conducting a literature review in support of SIGN guidelines.
- 2.2 **Stakeholders:** All developers and users of SIGN guidelines
- 2.3 **Evidence of potential impact (from existing Healthcare Improvement Scotland documentation, research, consultation or literature search):**
 This publication sets out the rules and procedures by which SIGN will conduct literature reviews to support guidelines. It will influence the way in which questions in every guideline address issues for specific groups or populations especially those with protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010. Dans et al(1) have developed an an 'equity lens framework' for assessing equity in clinical practice guidelines that will be applied to SIGN 50 overall. This tool has no specific requirements for the literature search aspect of the process. However the approach to searching described here seeks to ensure that equity issues are included in the literature retrieved in searches. The initial patient search is kept deliberately broad to avoid excluding anyone or anything (Section 6.1) and search instructions specifically include equality groups and seek to ensure they are not inappropriately excluded (Section 6.3).
 (1) Dans AM, Dans L, Oxman AD, Robinson V, Acuin J, Tugwell P, et al. Assessing equity in clinical practice guidelines. J Clin Epidemiol 2007;60;540-6.

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2.4 Areas where evidence is unavailable or unclear:
n/a

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Section 3: Checklist

3.1

We have checked the following protected characteristics, as a legal obligation:	Positive Impact identified	Negative impact identified	Additional information
Age	yes	please select...	By ensuring all equality groups/groups with protected characteristics are specifically considered. This process should benefit the appropriate groups in all cases.
Disability	yes	please select...	See above
Gender	yes	please select...	See above
Gender Reassignment	yes	please select...	See above
Marriage or Civil Partnership	yes	please select...	See above
Pregnancy or Maternity	yes	please select...	See above
Race	yes	please select...	See above
Religion or Belief	yes	please select...	See above
Sexual Orientation	yes	please select...	See above
In accordance with Healthcare Improvement Scotland policy we have also checked the following characteristics:			
Criminal Justice	yes	please select...	See above
Homelessness	yes	please select...	See above
Language or social origin	yes	please select...	See above
Mental Health	yes	please select...	See above
Poverty	yes	please select...	See above

3.2 This process promotes or improves equality by ensuring that the needs of all equality groups/protected characteristics are specifically considered when conducting a literature search.

3.3 A full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.
This has been agreed because There are no anticipated negative impacts.

3.4 Recommendations: Proceed with implementation of this section of the guideline manual.

3.5 Review date for this Checklist: 2014

3.6 Assessors: Robin Harbour; Paul Herbert
Date of assessment: 04/02/2013

3.7 Quality Assurance (E&D Officer): Jeniffer Kibagendi
Date of Quality Assurance: 05/03/2013

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