

Full equalities impact assessment – Back Pain

Directorate: Strategy Service: PBC

Piece of work being assessed: Back Pain

Name of lead person: Kate Gleave, Elective Care Service Specification Manager Other partners/stakeholders involved:

Date of assessment: 12/10/2008

Single Equality Scheme strand	Baseline data and research –	Is there likely to be a differential impact? If 'yes', is that impact direct or indirect discrimination?
Gender	<p>¹ The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) published information on Physical Activity from the second Northern Ireland Health and Social Wellbeing Survey. The survey was commissioned by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to monitor the health and wellbeing of the Northern Ireland population. A representative sample of adults, aged 16 and over, was interviewed between February and July 2001.</p> <p>The Health and ill-health section of the survey included a range of questions on how people perceive their health. In particular the survey focuses on long standing illness and limiting long-standing illness as well as high blood pressure, circulatory illness asthma and diabetes. The survey also focuses on back pain and musculoskeletal conditions.</p> <p>Respondents were asked if they had ever consulted a doctor regarding back pain.</p> <p>Overall, 39% of men and 42% of women had consulted a doctor regarding back pain.</p> <p>Respondents from a manual occupational background were more likely to have consulted a doctor regarding back pain (44%) than those from a non-manual occupational background (40%).</p> <p>Approximately a fifth (21%) of respondents had experienced severe back pain in the previous 12 months. Women were more likely than men to have reported severe back pain (22% and 18% respectively).</p>	Unknown

Race	No information found	Unknown
Disability	No information found	Unknown
Sexual orientation	No information found.	Unknown
Age	<p>² Frequent back pain is highly prevalent in the older population and is often associated with conditions that are potentially reversible.</p> <p>³ Persons at high risk of low back pain include those between age twenty and forty, and those whose jobs involve physical labour—especially lifting, pushing, or pulling heavy objects, or twisting during lifting. Truck drivers/Bus drivers are the occupational group who experience the most back pain. Another risk factor for low back pain is cigarette smoking, and poor physical fitness may also contribute to its occurrence.</p>	Unknown
Religion/belief	No information found.	Unknown

Equalities Impact Assessment Action Plan – Back Pain

Strand	Issue	Action required	How will you measure the impact/outcome?	Timescale	Lead
Gender	Services need to accommodate both women and men including trans people	Monitor gender of patients referred	By monitoring referrals to identify whether both women and men are accessing the service.	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave
Race	No data available	Race is currently not being monitored. QOF currently incentives practices to record ethnicity only at new-patient registration. Corporate issue for PCT action.	By monitoring referrals to identify whether the service specification provides an appropriate service to this client group.	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave
Disability	No data available	Ensure that the service specification reflects the needs of people with a disability	By monitoring referrals to identify whether the service specification provides an appropriate service to this client group	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave
Sexual orientation	No data available	Monitor sexual orientation of patients	By monitoring referrals to identify whether the service specification provides an appropriate service to this client group.	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave
Age	Different age groups have higher prevalence of back pain	Ensure that the service specification reflects the needs of different age groups	By monitoring referrals to identify whether the service specification provides appropriate services to different age groups	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave
Religion/ belief	No data available	Monitor religion and belief of patients	Count at 6- and 12-month evaluations	April 2009 and Oct 2009	Kate Gleave

¹ NORTHERN IRELAND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELLBEING SURVEY 2001 HEALTH AND ILL-HEALTH BULLETIN

² Spine, 2006 May 1, vol.31, no.10, p.1149-55, (39 ref), ISSN:0362-2436

³ Felson, D. T. "Epidemiology of the Rheumatic Diseases." *Arthritis & Allied Conditions*, W. Koopman, ed. New York: Lippincott, Williams and Collens, 2000.