AWTTC
All Wales Therapeutics & Toxicology Centre
Canolfan Therapiwteg a Thocsicoleg Cymru Gyfan

Equality impact assessment

Medicine name: emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (Descovy®)
Submission reference number: 2566
Indication: Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in at-risk men who have sex with men, including adolescents (with body weight at least 35 kg).
New Medicines Group meeting date: 7 June 2023
All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) meeting date: 11 July 2023

The impact of this medicine on equality has been assessed during this appraisal.

Have any potential equality issues been identified for this medicine? If so, what are they?
Descovy® is only indicated to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in at-risk men who have sex with men, including adolescents; it is not indicated outside this specific group. The marketing authorisation holder highlights an ongoing study in which adolescent girls and young women at risk of HIV infection will receive one of three active treatments: lenacapavir or Descovy® or Truvada® as PrEP.
Would the availability of the medicine result in different impacts for protected groups (age, gender, gender reassignment, disability, pregnancy and maternity, marriage or civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation)?
The introduction of Descovy® will reduce inequalities in access to PrEP for men who have sex with men, including adolescents, at risk of HIV who have certain renal or bone issues and which may prevent the use of other medicines for this indication.
Would it be more difficult in practice for a specific group to access the medicine, compared with other groups? If so, what are those barriers or difficulties? Are there any recommendations that AWMSG could make to remove or alleviate difficulties with access?
As mentioned above Descovy® is only indicated to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in at-risk men who have sex with men, including adolescents, and only this specific group would have routine access due to the medicine's licence. AWMSG would not be able to make health technology assessment recommendations in unlicensed groups.

How will any equality issues be addressed?
If trials are successful and the marketing authorisation holder supports licensing and access of the medicine for wider patient groups.
Does the medicine relate to an area with known health inequalities?
To reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in at-risk men who have sex with men, including adolescents, with certain renal and bone issues which may prevent the use of other medicines for this indication.
Is a full equality and health impact assessment needed?
No
Actions: • None.

Approved by: Assessment Lead
Date: 27/06/2023

Date of next review: 11/07/2026