



Equality Screening, Disability Duties and Human Rights Assessment Template

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Guidance notes are available to assist with completing this template. For further help please contact the Equality and Human Rights Unit ext 20539.

Part 1. Policy scoping

1.1 Information about the policy / decision

1.1.1 What is the name of the policy / decision?

Changes in the licensing of medicines means that the Schedule in Health and Personal Social Services (General Medical Services)(Prescription of Drugs Etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 has to be amended.

1.1.2 Is this an existing, revised or a new policy / decision?

This is an existing policy which restricts the availability of medications for the treatment of erectile dysfunction.

1.1.3 What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)

The amendments to the Prescription of Drugs Regulations will mean that certain drugs which have been licensed for the treatment of other conditions cannot be prescribed for the treatment of erectile dysfunction.

1.1.4 If there are any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy, please explain how.

N/A.

1.1.5 Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Department of Health.

1.1.6 Who owns and who implements the policy?

Department of Health.

1.2 Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision? If yes, are they

- Financial
- Legislative
- Other

Please explain:
Consequential amendment to Schedule 2 provisions required.

1.3 Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

- Staff
- Service users
- Other public sector organisations
- Voluntary/community/trade unions
- Other, please specify

1.4 Other policies with a bearing on this policy / decision. If any:

Policy	Owner(s) of the policy
NA	

1.5 Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative*) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
Religious belief	NA
Political opinion	NA
Racial group	NA
Age	NA
Marital status	NA
Sexual orientation	NA
Gender (Men and women generally)	NA
Disability (with or without)	NA
Dependants (with or without)	NA

* Qualitative data – refers to the experiences of individuals related in their own terms, and based on their own experiences and attitudes. Qualitative data is often used to complement quantitative data to determine why policies are successful or unsuccessful and the reasons for this.

Quantitative data - refers to numbers (that is, quantities), typically derived from either a population in general or

samples of that population. This information is often analysed either using descriptive statistics (which summarise patterns), or inferential statistics (which are used to infer from a sample about the wider population).

1.6 Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information recorded in 1.1 to 1.5, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	NA
Political opinion	NA
Racial group	NA
Age	NA
Marital status	NA
Sexual orientation	NA
Gender (Men and women generally)	NA
Disability (with or without)	NA
Dependants (with or without)	NA

Part 2. Screening questions

2.1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? (minor/major/none)		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None
Age		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Gender (Men and women generally)		None
Disability (with or without)		None
Dependants (with or without)		None

2.2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?

Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No
Age		No
Marital status		No
Sexual orientation		No
Gender (Men and women generally)		No
Disability (with or without)		No
Dependants (with or without)		No

2.3 To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? (minor/major/none)		
Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None

2.4 Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No

2.5 Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities (e.g. minority ethnic people with a disability, women with a disability, young protestant men, young lesbian, gay or bisexual persons). Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

NA

2.6 Was the original policy / decision changed in any way to address any adverse impacts identified either through the screening process or from consultation feedback. If so please provide details.

No

Part 3. Screening decision

3.1 How would you summarise the impact of the policy / decision?

- No impact
- Minor impact
- Major impact

x

Consider mitigation (3.4 – 3.5)

3.2 Do you consider that this policy / decision needs to be subjected to a full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)?

- Yes - screened in
- No - screened out

x

3.3 Please explain your reason for making your decision at 3.2.

No adverse impact – simply consequential amendment of NI legislation as a result of Department of Health policy

Mitigation

If you have concluded at 3.1 and 3.2 that the likely impact is '**minor**' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, you must consider mitigation (or scope for further mitigation if some is already included as per 2.6) to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

3.4 Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?

Yes
No

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.5 If you responded "**Yes**", please give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

Part 4. Monitoring

Monitoring is an important part of policy development and implementation. Through monitoring it is possible to assess the impacts of the policy / decision both beneficial and adverse.

4.1 Please detail how you will monitor the effect of the policy / decision?

NA -

4.2 What data will you collect in the future in order to monitor the effect of the policy / decision?

NA

Please note: - For the purposes of the annual progress report to the Equality Commission you may later be asked about the monitoring you have done in relation to this policy and whether that has identified any Equality issues.

Part 5. Disability Duties

5.1 Does the policy/decision in any way promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and/or encourage their participation in public life?

No

5.2 Is there an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people or encourage their participation in public life by making changes to the policy/decision or introducing additional measures?

No

Part 6. Human Rights

6.1 Please complete the table below to indicate whether the policy / decision affects anyone's Human Rights?

ARTICLE	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT = human right interfered with or restricted	NEUTRAL IMPACT
Article 2 – Right to life			x
Article 3 – Right to freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment			x
Article 4 – Right to freedom from slavery, servitude & forced or compulsory labour			x
Article 5 – Right to liberty & security of person			x
Article 6 – Right to a fair & public trial within a reasonable time			x
Article 7 – Right to freedom from retrospective criminal law & no punishment without law.			x
Article 8 – Right to respect for private & family life, home and correspondence.			x
Article 9 – Right to freedom of thought, conscience & religion			x
Article 10 – Right to freedom of expression			x
Article 11 – Right to freedom of assembly & association			x
Article 12 – Right to marry & found a family			x
Article 14 – Prohibition of discrimination in the enjoyment of the convention rights			x
1 st protocol Article 1 – Right to a peaceful			x

enjoyment of possessions & protection of property			
1 st protocol Article 2 – Right of access to education			x

6.2 If you have identified a likely negative impact who is affected and how?

NA

At this stage we would recommend that you consult with your line manager to determine whether to seek legal advice and to refer to Human Rights Guidance to consider:

- *whether there is a law which allows you to interfere with or restrict rights*
- *whether this interference or restriction is necessary and proportionate*
- *what action would be required to reduce the level of interference or restriction in order to comply with the Human Rights Act (1998).*

6.3 Outline any actions which could be taken to promote or raise awareness of human rights or to ensure compliance with the legislation in relation to the policy/decision.

NA

Part 7 - Approval and authorisation

	Name	Grade	Date
Screened completed by	Edmund McCosh	SO	
Approved by ¹	Emer Morelli	7	16/04/2014
Forwarded to E&HR Unit ²	E&HR		16/04/2014

Notes:

¹ The Screening Template should be approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy this would normally be at least Grade 7.

² When the Equality and Human Rights Unit receive a copy of the final screening it will be placed on the Department's website and will be accessible to the public from that point on. In addition, consultees who elect to receive it, will be issued with a quarterly listing all screenings completed during each three month period.

