

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

### 1 Quality standard title

Acute heart failure: diagnosis and management in adults

### 2 Introduction

#### 2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are a concise set of prioritised statements designed to drive measurable quality improvements within a particular area of health or care.

The standards are derived from high-quality guidance, such as that from NICE or [accredited](#) by NICE. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with health, public health and social care practitioners, their partners and service users. Information on priority areas, people's experience of using services, safety issues, equality and cost impact are considered during the development process.

NICE quality standards are central to supporting the Government's vision for a health and social care system that is focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for people who use services, as detailed in the [Health and Social Care Act \(2012\)](#).

The quality standard development process is described in detail on the [NICE website](#).

#### 2.2 *This topic overview*

This topic overview describes core elements of the quality standard. These include the population and topic to be covered, key source guidance to be used to underpin potential quality statements, any related quality standards, published current practice information and national or routine indicators and performance measures.

If the source guidance is not NICE guidance, it should meet the minimum quality criteria defined in NICE's [accreditation programme](#).

### **3 This quality standard**

This quality standard is expected to publish in December 2015.

#### **3.1 *Population and topic to be covered***

This quality standard will cover the care of adults (aged 18 years or older) who have a diagnosis of acute heart failure, have possible acute heart failure, or are being investigated for acute heart failure. The long-term management of chronic heart failure is not covered in the quality standard as it is covered by a separate clinical guideline and quality standard referral (QS9).

#### **3.2 *Key development sources (NICE and NICE-accredited sources)***

##### **Primary source**

- [Acute heart failure](#) (2014) NICE guideline CG187.

##### **Other sources that may be used**

- [Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation \(ECMO\) for acute heart failure in adults](#). NICE interventional procedure guidance 482 (2014).
- [Identifying and supporting people most at risk of dying prematurely](#) NICE guideline PH15 (2008).
- [Short-term circulatory support with left ventricular assist devices as a bridge to cardiac transplantation or recovery](#) NICE interventional procedure guidance 177 (2006).

##### **Key policy documents, reports and national audits**

Relevant policy documents, reports and national audits will be used to inform the development of the quality standard.

- [Increase uptake of cardiac rehabilitation for people with coronary artery disease and following acute heart failure](#) NHS England (2014).
- [Living well for longer: national support for local action to reduce premature avoidable mortality](#) Department of Health (2014).

- [Heart disease improvement plan](#) Scottish Government (2014).
- [Together for health: a heart disease delivery plan](#) Welsh Government (2014).
- [Living well for longer: a call to action to reduce avoidable premature mortality](#) Department of Health (2013).
- [National heart failure audit 2012-2013](#) The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (2013).
- [The national audit of cardiac rehabilitation](#) British Heart Foundation (2013).
- [A guide for review and improvement of hospital based heart failure services](#) NHS Improvement (2011).
- [Clinical standards for heart disease](#) Healthcare Improvement Scotland (2010).
- [National heart failure audit 2010](#) Health and Social Care Information Centre (2010).
- [Guidelines for the management of heart failure](#) Greater Manchester and Cheshire Cardiac Network (2008).
- [Pushing the boundaries: improving services for people with heart failure](#) Healthcare Commission (2007).

### **3.3 Related NICE quality standards**

#### **Published**

- [Patient experience in adult NHS services.](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15.
- [Chronic heart failure.](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 9. Publication update expected 2015 or 2016.

#### **In development**

- [Cardiovascular risk assessment.](#) Publication expected September 2015.
- [Secondary prevention of myocardial infarction.](#) Publication expected September 2015.

#### **Future quality standards**

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all quality standards referred to NICE, including the following quality standards scheduled for future development:

- Acute medical admissions in the first 48 hours

The full list of quality standard topics referred to NICE is available from the [quality standard topic library](#) on the NICE website.

## **4 Existing indicators**

- [NICE menu of QOF indicators](#): The percentage of patients with heart failure diagnosed within the preceding 15 months with a subsequent record of an offer of referral for an exercise-based rehabilitation programme within the preceding 15 months. NM61.
- [NICE menu of OIS indicators](#): Heart failure: 12 months all-cause mortality. CFH 13.

## **5 Further information**

See the NICE website for more information about [NICE quality standards](#) and the [progress of this quality standard](#).