

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Multiple sclerosis

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 January 2016.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the diagnosis, treatment and management of multiple sclerosis in adults (18 years and over).

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

Primary source

- [Multiple sclerosis](#) (2014) NICE guideline CG186

Other sources that may be used

- [Urinary incontinence in neurological disease](#) (2012) NICE guideline CG148

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.

- Multiple Sclerosis Trust (2014) [Neurology specialist nurses and multiple sclerosis](#)
- Multiple Sclerosis Trust (2014) [MS specialist nursing in the UK-2014](#)
- NHS England (2014) [Clinical commissioning policy: disease modifying therapies for patients with multiple sclerosis \(MS\)](#)
- Health & Social Care Information Centre (2012) [HES on multiple sclerosis](#)
- National Audit Office (2011) [Services for people with neurological conditions](#)

- Royal College of Physicians (2011) [National audit of services for people with multiple sclerosis](#)
- Royal College of Physicians (2011) [Local adult neurology services for the next decade](#)
- Department of Health (2011) [The risk sharing scheme for disease modifying therapies in multiple sclerosis](#)
- Department of Health (2005) [National service framework for long term conditions](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Urinary incontinence in women](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 77
- [Faecal incontinence](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 54
- [Anxiety disorders](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 53
- [Lower urinary tract symptoms in men](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 45
- [Smoking cessation: supporting people to stop smoking](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 43
- [Nutrition support in adults](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 24
- [End of life care for adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 13
- [Depression in adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 8

In development

- [Pressure ulcers](#). Publication expected May 2015
- [Physical activity: encouraging activity in all people in contact with the NHS \(staff, patients and carers\)](#). Publication date to be confirmed

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:

- Osteoporosis
- Pain management (young people and adults)

- Workplace: long-term sickness absence and management

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

- Department of Health (2014) [NHS Outcomes Framework 2015-16](#) 2.1
Proportion of people feeling supported to manage their condition
- Department of Health (2014) [NHS Outcomes Framework 2015-16](#) 2.2
Employment of people with long-term conditions
- Department of Health (2014) [Public Health Outcomes Framework 2013 to 2016](#) 1.8 Employment for those with long-term health conditions including adults with a learning disability or who are in contact with secondary mental health services

5 Further information

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