

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Drug allergy: diagnosis and management

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 July 2015.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the diagnosis and management of drug allergy in adults, young people and children. It will not cover treatment of the acute phase including anaphylaxis, because this will be covered by a separate quality standard.

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

Primary source

- [Drug allergy](#) (2014) NICE guideline CG183.

Other sources that may be used

- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (2008; updated 2014) [Antibiotic prophylaxis in surgery](#).

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.

- Joint Royal College of Physicians and Royal College of Pathologists Working Party (2010) [Allergy services: still not meeting the unmet need](#).
- Care Quality Commission (2009) [Managing patients' medicines after discharge](#).
- National Patient Safety Agency (2009) [Safety in doses: improving the use of medicines in the NHS](#).

- Department of Health (2007) [Government response to the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee report on allergy](#).
- House of Lords Science and Technology Committee (2007) [House of Lords Science and Technology Sixth Report](#).
- National Patient Safety Agency (2007) [Patient Safety Observatory Report 4: Safety in doses](#).

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Asthma](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 25.
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15.
- [Diabetes in adults \(including foot care\)](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 6.

In development

- [Managing medicines in care homes](#). Publication expected March 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:

- Anaphylaxis.
- Diabetes in children and young people.
- Diabetes in pregnancy.
- Medicines management: managing the use of medicines in community settings for people receiving social care.
- Medicines optimisation (covering medicines adherence and safe prescribing).
- Perioperative care.

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

- [National Reporting and Learning System patient safety incident data](#).

National Reporting and Learning Service.

5 Further information

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