NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE indicator guidance

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# Indicator NM170

The percentage of patients with COPD on the register, who have had a review in the preceding 12 months, including a record of the number of exacerbations and an assessment of breathlessness using the Medical Research Council dyspnoea scale.

# Indicator type

General practice indicator suitable for use in the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

# Rationale

This indicator aims to encourage the use of recording of number of exacerbations and assessments of breathlessness in annual COPD reviews. Understanding the frequency of exacerbations can help when creating personalised management plans, identifying triggers and avoiding future exacerbations.

# Source guidance

[Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in over 16s: diagnosis and management. NICE guideline NG115](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng115) (2018, updated 2019), recommendation 1.2.138.

# Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator who have had a review in the preceding 12 months that included a record of the number of exacerbations and an assessment of breathlessness using the Medical Research Council dyspnoea scale.

Denominator: The number of patients with COPD on the register (see NICE indicator NM169).

Calculation: (Numerator/denominator)\*100

Exclusions: None

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance at individual general practice level.

# Further information

This is NICE indicator guidance, which is part of the [NICE menu of indicators](https://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/index). This document does not represent formal NICE guidance.