NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

# NICE indicator guidance

Date first published on NICE menu: August 2016

Last update: August 2021

## Indicator NM141

The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 58 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months.

## Indicator type

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

## Rationale

Optimal blood glucose control is associated with a reduction in diabetes complications. An individual target for IFCC-HbA1c levels should be set to balance the benefits with harms.

For the purposes of primary care indicators, 3 separate clinical practice targets were adopted: HbA1c 58, 64 and 75 mmol/mol (NM141, NM96 and NM97). These targets are higher than the lower level recommended by the guidance, which may not be achievable or appropriate for all people. The 3 indicators aim to improve blood glucose control across the distribution of HbA1c values in the population with type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

## Source guidance

[Type 1 diabetes in adults. NICE guideline NG17](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng17) (2015, updated 2021), recommendations 1.6.6 and 1.6.9.

[Type 2 diabetes in adults. NICE guideline NG28](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng28) (2015, updated 2020), recommendations 1.6.8 and 1.6.9.

## Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 58 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months.

Denominator: The number of patients with diabetes, on the register.

Calculation: e.g. (Numerator/denominator)\*100

Exclusions:

* Patients who had measurement of serum fructosamine instead of HbA1c in previous 12 months
* Patients who have a blood test exception code recorded in the preceding 12 months.
* Patients who are on maximum tolerated diabetes treatment in the preceding 12 months

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.