

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## NICE GENERAL PRACTICE INDICATOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### Resource impact statement: NM146

**Date:** August 2017

#### **Indicator**

NM146: The percentage of patients registered at the practice aged 65 years and over who have been diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: hypertension, diabetes, CKD, PAD, stroke/TIA, ischaemic heart disease and heart failure who have had a pulse rhythm assessment in the last 12 months.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Introduction**

There is evidence to suggest that a significant proportion of people with atrial fibrillation are undiagnosed and are therefore not being offered treatment to prevent the risk of stroke and other complications. Pulse rhythm assessment represents a low resource method for identifying the presence of an irregular pulse.

This statement covers a new indicator that is part of the NICE menu of indicators for general practice, following the recommendations of the NICE indicator advisory committee in June 2017.

#### **Resource impact**

NICE guidance highlights that people with these conditions should be having blood pressure monitored. Assessing pulse rhythm can therefore take place in existing review appointments for these patients. Increased costs are therefore not expected as a result of introducing NM146. When previously undetected

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<sup>1</sup> CKD: chronic kidney disease, PAD: peripheral arterial disease, TIA: transient ischaemic attack  
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cases of atrial fibrillation are identified, savings may be made as a result of reduced adverse events associated with atrial fibrillation such as stroke and blood clots.