NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

# NICE indicator guidance

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## Indicator NM95

The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, with a diagnosis of nephropathy (clinical proteinuria) or micro-albuminuria who are currently treated with an ACE-I (or ARBs).

## Indicator type

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

## Rationale

This indicator measures the percentage of people with diabetes and kidney disease treated with ACE inhibitors or ARBs. The aim of treatment is to slow the progression of kidney disease in people with type 1 or type 2 diabetes.

There is strong clinical evidence that the progression of kidney disease in people with diabetes is slowed by treatment with ACE inhibitors. Although trial evidence is based largely on ACE inhibitors, it is believed that similar benefits occur with ARB treatment in people who have intolerable side effects with ACE inhibitors. The [SIGN guideline for diabetes](https://www.sign.ac.uk/our-guidelines/management-of-diabetes/) recommends that all people with diabetes and a diagnosis of microalbuminuria are offered ACE inhibitors or ARB treatment, irrespective of blood pressure. This is in agreement with the NICE guidelines for type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes.

This indicator aligns with the guidance by providing an incentive for ACE inhibitor or ARB treatment for all people with type 1 or type 2 diabetes who have a diagnosis of microalbuminuria or confirmed nephropathy.

## Source guidance

[Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management.](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng17) NICE guideline 17 (2016), recommendations 1.15.14 and 1.15.15.

[Type 2 diabetes in adults.](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng28) NICE guideline NG28 (2015), recommendation 1.7.12.

[Chronic kidney disease in adults: assessment and management.](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg182) NICE guideline CG182 (2015), recommendation 1.6.3

[Management of diabetes](https://www.sign.ac.uk/sign-116-and-154-diabetes) (2010) SIGN guideline 116

## Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator who are currently treated with an ACE-I (or ARBs).

Denominator: The number of patients on the diabetes register with a diagnosis of nephropathy (clinical proteinuria) or micro-albuminuria.

Calculation: (Numerator/denominator)\*100

Exclusions:

* patients who have no record of a proteinuria code and no record of a microalbuminuria code
* patients who have a persisting contraindication or an expiring contraindication to an ACE-I recorded in the 12 months leading up to and including the payment period end date and have a persisting contraindication or an expiring contraindication to an ARB recorded in the 12 months leading up to and including the payment period end date.

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.