QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

Smoking: treating dependence

1. Introduction

NICE quality standards describe key areas for quality improvement in health, public health and social care. Each quality standard contains a set of quality statements with related measures. Quality statements are derived from evidence-based guidance, such as NICE guidance or NICE-accredited guidance. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with health, public health and social care practitioners, their partners and people using services.

* 1. Smoking: treating dependence quality standard

This quality standard has been commissioned by Department of Health and Social Care. It will cover support to stop smoking in people aged 12 and over, stopping use of smokeless tobacco and harm reduction approaches if people are not ready to stop smoking in one go. The quality standard will not cover preventing uptake of smoking as that is covered in [NICE’s quality standard for smoking: reducing and preventing tobacco use](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs82).

This quality standard will merge and replace the existing NICE quality standards for [smoking: supporting people to stop](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs43) (QS43) and [smoking: harm reduction](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs92) (QS92). This proposal follows publication of the [NICE guideline on tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng209). Review of the existing quality standards identified that there may be changes in the areas for improvement given the structure of stop-smoking services and the increased use of nicotine containing e-cigarettes. Merging the quality standards is proposed to reflect the provision of harm reduction approaches alongside stop-smoking support.

This quality standard is expected to publish in December 2022.

* 1. Topic engagement

The topic engagement exercise will help identify what stakeholders think are the key areas for quality improvement for this topic. The areas highlighted by stakeholders will be included in the briefing paper that will be used to inform the prioritisation of key areas during the first quality standards advisory committee meeting.

1. Developing the quality standard
   1. Key development sources (NICE and NICE-accredited guidance)

* [Tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng209) (2021) NICE guideline NG209
  1. 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.

* Action on Smoking and Health and Cancer research UK (2021) [Reaching out: Tobacco control and stop smoking services in local authorities in England](https://ash.org.uk/information-and-resources/reports-submissions/reports/reaching-out/)
* NHS Digital (2021) [Statistics on NHS stop smoking services in England](https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-nhs-stop-smoking-services-in-england/april-2020-to-march-2021)
* Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (2021) [Local tobacco control profiles](https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/tobacco-control)
* NHS Digital (2020) [Statistics on smoking, England](https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-smoking/statistics-on-smoking-england-2020)
* British Thoracic Society (2019) [National smoking cessation audit](https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/quality-improvement/clinical-audit/national-smoking-cessation-audit-2021/)
* Office for National Statistics (2019) [Adult smoking habits in the UK](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/bulletins/adultsmokinghabitsingreatbritain/2019)
* Department of Health and Social Care (2018) [Tobacco control plan delivery plan 2017 to 2022](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tobacco-control-plan-delivery-plan-2017-to-2022)
* Royal College of Physicians (2018) [Hiding in plain sight: treating tobacco dependency in the NHS](https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/outputs/hiding-plain-sight-treating-tobacco-dependency-nhs)
* Department of Health and Social Care (2017) [Towards a smoke-free generation: a tobacco control plan for England](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/towards-a-smoke-free-generation-tobacco-control-plan-for-england)

1. Further information
   1. Related NICE quality standards

### Published

* [Community pharmacies: promoting health and wellbeing](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs196) (2020) NICE quality standard 196
* [Smoking: reducing and preventing tobacco use](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs82) (2015) NICE quality standard 82
* [Antenatal care](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs22) (2012, updated 2021) NICE quality standard 22
* [Lung cancer](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs17) (2012, updated 2019) NICE quality standard 17
* [Patient experience in adult NHS services](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs15) (2012, updated 2019) NICE quality standard 15

The full list of quality standard topics referred to NICE is available from the [quality standard topic library](http://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/Developing-NICE-quality-standards-/Quality-standards-topic-library).

See the NICE website for [more information about NICE quality standards](http://www.nice.org.uk/standards-and-indicators) and the [progress of this quality standard](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-qs10153)

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