NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE quality standards

Equality impact assessment

Type 2 diabetes in adults

The impact on equality has been assessed during quality standard development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

### 1. TOPIC ENGAGEMENT STAGE

### 1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during this stage of the development process?

People from some minority ethnic groups, such as those from a black family background or an Asian family background have a higher prevalence of diabetes and are diagnosed at a younger age than people from a white family background. People from a black family background may also have higher prevalence of risk factors, such as hypertension and people from a South Asian family background are at risk of diabetes at a lower BMI ([Diabetes statistics](https://www.diabetes.org.uk/professionals/position-statements-reports/statistics?msclkid=2509405fcfb111ecaaa81dc37c343914), Diabetes UK 2022). People with a learning disability may be at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes, and at an earlier age, than the general population due to higher rates of obesity or reduced physical activity and prescriptions of some medications ([NHS RightCare pathway: diabetes](https://www.england.nhs.uk/rightcare/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2017/11/rightcare-pathway-diabetes-reasonable-adjustments-learning-disability-2.pdf), NHS England 2017). People from more deprived backgrounds face greater challenges in making healthy lifestyle choice ([Health matters: preventing type 2 diabetes](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-preventing-type-2-diabetes/health-matters-preventing-type-2-diabetes?msclkid=b6139baacfbc11ec94df9c59576d612e), Public Health England 2018).

Some population groups may face difficulty in accessing some lifestyle programmes for the prevention of type 2 diabetes, for example, people with a physical or learning disability or people in contact with the criminal justice system.

Treatment of type 2 diabetes in older people or those who are frailer may vary. An individualised approach to treatment should be adopted for people with type 2 diabetes and age as well as accessibility needs considered when planning care.

People from lower socio-economic backgrounds may experience difficulty in using some diabetes monitoring devices as they may require access to higher cost technologies such as smart-phones and computers.

### 1.2 Have any population groups, treatments or settings been excluded from coverage by the quality standard at this stage in the process. Are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?

Children and young people with type 2 diabetes and women with type 2 diabetes who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant are excluded from the quality standard. NICE quality standards for [diabetes in children and young people](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs125) and [diabetes in pregnancy](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs109) cover these populations.

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