

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Sepsis

2 Introduction

2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are a concise set of prioritised statements designed to drive measurable quality improvements within a particular area of health or care.

The standards are derived from high-quality guidance, such as that from NICE or [accredited](#) by NICE. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with health, public health and social care practitioners, their partners and service users. Information on priority areas, people's experience of using services, safety issues, equality and cost impact are considered during the development process.

NICE quality standards are central to supporting the government's vision for a health and social care system that is focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for people who use services, as detailed in the [Health and Social Care Act \(2012\)](#).

The quality standard development process is described in detail on the [NICE website](#).

2.2 *This topic overview*

This topic overview describes core elements of the quality standard. These include the population and topic to be covered, key source guidance to be used to underpin potential quality statements, any related quality standards,

published current practice information and national or routine indicators and performance measures.

If the source guidance is not NICE guidance, it should meet the minimum quality criteria defined in NICE's [accreditation programme](#).

3 This quality standard

This quality standard is expected to publish in August 2017.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the recognition, diagnosis and early management of sepsis for all populations.

3.2 Key development sources (NICE and NICE-accredited sources)

Primary source

- [Sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management](#) (2016) NICE guideline NG51.

Other sources that may be used

- [Sepsis following Pregnancy, Bacterial](#) (Green-top Guideline No. 64b) (2012) Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- [Sepsis in Pregnancy, Bacterial](#) (Green-top Guideline no.64a) (2012) Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

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.

- The Royal College of Emergency Medicine (2016) [Severe Sepsis & Septic Shock Clinical Audit 2016/2017](#)
- All Party Parliamentary Group on Sepsis (2015) [APPG Sepsis Report 2015](#)

- National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (2015) [Sepsis: Just say sepsis](#)
- NHS England (2015) [Improving outcomes for patients with sepsis: A cross-system action plan](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

In March 2012, the Department of Health referred a library of quality standard topics for the NHS to NICE for development.

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all topics in the NICE [library of quality standards](#). Sepsis is relevant to a wide range of conditions and diseases and a range of equality groups and general health and wellbeing.

Published

- [Antimicrobial stewardship](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 121.
- [Healthcare-associated infections](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 113.
- [Urinary tract infections in adults](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 90.
- [Neonatal infection](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 75.
- [Fever in under 5s](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 64.
- [Infection prevention and control](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 61.
- [Surgical site infection](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 49.
- [Urinary tract infection in children and young people](#) (2013). NICE quality standard 36.
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15.

Future quality standards

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all quality standards referred to NICE, including the following quality standards scheduled for future development:

- Acute medical admissions in the first 48 hours.
- Readmissions
- Readmission to ICU within 48hours

- Urgent and emergency care

The full list of quality standard topics referred to NICE is available from the [quality standard topic library](#) on the NICE website.

4 Existing indicators

- NHS England (2016) [2016/17 CQUIN indicator 2a Timely identification and treatment for sepsis in emergency department.](#)
- NHS England (2016) [2016/17 CQUIN indicator 2b Timely identification and treatment for sepsis in inpatient settings.](#)

5 Further information

See the NICE website for more information about [NICE quality standards](#) and the [progress of this quality standard](#)