

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD SCOPE

1 Quality standard title

Management of venous thromboembolic diseases

2 Quality standards

NICE quality standards are a set of specific, concise statements that act as markers of high-quality, cost-effective patient care, covering the treatment and prevention of different diseases and conditions.

NICE quality standards are derived from the best available evidence, such as NICE guidance and NICE accredited sources. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with the NHS, social care professionals, and their partners and service users, and address clinical and cost effectiveness, patient safety and patient experience.

This work is intended to help the NHS focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for patients.

The quality standard development process is described in detail on the NICE website (see section 5, 'Further information').

3 This standard

This scope defines what the standard will (and will not) consider. It is based on the referral from the Department of Health and has been drafted following the first meeting of the Topic Expert Group.

The areas that will be considered by the standard are described in the following sections.

3.1 *Population*

3.1.1 Groups that will be covered

- a) Adults (18 and older) with suspected or confirmed venous thromboembolic (VTE) diseases.

3.1.2 Groups that will not be covered

- a) Children and young people (younger than 18).
- b) Pregnant women.

3.2 *Healthcare settings*

- a) All settings in which NHS care is received, including primary, community and secondary care.

3.3 *Areas of care*

The areas of care of a patient's pathway used to inform the development of the quality statements are set out in section 3.3.1. During the development of the standard the Topic Expert Group will decide which of these areas are suitable for quality statements and measures. The draft quality statements and measures will be the subject of a public consultation. The content of the quality standard statements may change during the process and may differ after consultation with stakeholders.

3.3.1 Areas of care that will be considered

- a) Diagnostic investigations, including timing of investigation and interim therapeutic dose anticoagulation therapy.
- b) Mechanical interventions, including graduated compression stockings.
- c) Assessing risk factors associated with continuing anticoagulation, including renal function and weight.
- d) Thrombolytic therapy for pulmonary embolism.

- e) Thrombophilia testing.
- f) Review of patients with VTE
- g) Investigations for cancer in patients over 40 with unprovoked VTE.
- h) VTE treatment and review in patients with active cancer.

3.3.2 Areas of care that will not be considered

- a) Prevention.

3.4 *Economic aspects*

The Topic Expert Group will take into account both clinical and cost effectiveness when prioritising the quality statements to be included in the quality standard. The economic evidence will be considered, and the cost and commissioning impact of implementing the quality standard will be assessed.

3.5 *Timing*

The development of the quality standard will begin in July 2012.

4 Key development sources

Relevant NICE guidance (published and in development) will be used to develop the quality standard. If available, other NICE accredited sources will also be used.

4.1 *Published sources*

- [Venous thromboembolic diseases. NICE clinical guideline.](#) Pre-publication version available March 2012, full publication expected June 2012.
- [Prevention and management of venous thromboembolism \(VTE\).](#) Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network publication 122 (2010).

4.2 *NICE guidance under development*

- [Rivaroxaban for the treatment and secondary prevention of venous thromboembolism.](#) NICE technology appraisal. Publication expected July 2012.

- [Rivaroxaban for the acute treatment and VTE prevention of pulmonary embolism](#). NICE technology appraisal. Publication expected September 2013.
- [Apixaban for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in acute medical illness](#). NICE technology appraisal. Publication date to be confirmed.
- [Dabigatran etexilate for the treatment of acute venous thromboembolic events](#). NICE technology appraisal. Publication date to be confirmed.
- [Rivaroxaban for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in people hospitalised for acute medical conditions](#). NICE technology appraisal. Publication date to be confirmed.

4.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published standards

- [Venous thromboembolic disease prevention](#). NICE quality standard (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard (2012).

4.4 Key policy documents and national audits

Relevant national audits and policy documents will be used to inform the development of the quality standard.

- Department of Health (2010) [Venous thromboembolism \(VTE\) risk assessment](#).
- Department of Health (2008) [Using the commissioning for quality and innovation \(CQUIN\) payment framework](#) (see guidance on national goals for 2011/12).
- Department of Health (2009) [Venous thromboembolism prevention: a patient safety priority](#).
- Department of Health (2007) [Report of the independent expert working group on the prevention of venous thromboembolism \(VTE\) in hospitalised patients](#).
- [National Venous Thromboembolism Registry](#) (available from NCAOPO)
- The All-Party Parliamentary Thrombosis Group (2011) [Awareness, assessment, management and prevention. Fifth annual audit of acute NHS trusts' VTE policies](#).

- Department of Health (2011) [VTE risk assessment data collection](#).
- National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (2009) [Deaths in acute hospitals: caring to the end?](#)
- NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (2008) [Management of deep vein thrombosis NHS Board Implementation follow up report](#).

5 Further information

Information on the quality standard development process is provided in:

- 'Developing NICE quality standards: interim process guide'.

This is available from the NICE website

(www.nice.org.uk/aboutnice/qualitystandards). Information on the progress of the quality standard is also available from the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk).