

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD SCOPE

### 1 Quality standard title

Self-harm

### 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 other evidence sources accredited by NICE. 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 term self-harm is used in this quality standard to refer to any act of self-poisoning or self-injury carried out by an individual irrespective of motivation. This commonly involves self-poisoning with medication or self-injury by cutting. This term is not used to refer to harm arising from overeating, body piercing, body tattooing, excessive

consumption of alcohol or recreational drugs, starvation arising from anorexia nervosa, and accidental harm to oneself.

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) People aged 8 years and older with or without mental illness who have carried out acts of self-injury or self-poisoning.
- b) Specific consideration will be given to:
  - Children and young people aged between 8 and 16 years
  - People aged over 65 years.

#### **3.1.2 Groups that will not be covered**

- a) People with neurodevelopmental disorders with repetitive stereotypical self-injurious behaviour.

### **3.2 Health and social care settings**

- a) All settings where health and social care services are in contact with people who self-harm.

### **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) General principles of health and social care.
- b) Immediate management by ambulance services.
- c) Immediate management in primary care.
- d) Immediate management in acute settings.
- e) Longer-term management.

### **3.3.2 Areas of care that will not be considered**

- a) No areas identified.

## **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 October 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***

- [Self-harm: longer-term management](#). NICE clinical guideline 133 (2011).
- [Self-harm](#). NICE clinical guideline 16 (2004).

## **4.2 Related NICE quality standards**

### **4.2.1 Published standards**

- [Service user experience in adult mental health](#). NICE quality standard (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard (2012).
- [Depression](#). NICE quality standard (2011).

### **4.2.2 Standards in development**

Available from [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

- Medicines adherence. NICE quality standard (in development).
- Safe prescribing. NICE quality standard (in development).

## **4.3 Key policy documents and national audits**

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

### **4.3.1 Key policy documents**

- Department of Health (2011) [No health without mental health: a cross-government mental health outcomes strategy for people of all ages](#).
- Department of Health (2011) [Consultation on preventing suicide in England: a cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives](#).
- Department of Health (2002) [National suicide prevention strategy for England](#).

### **4.3.2 National audit**

- NHS Information Centre (2009) [Adult Psychiatric Morbidity in England, 2007: results of a household survey](#).

## **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](http://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](http://www.nice.org.uk)).

DRAFT