

NICE quality standards

Information for the public

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Information for people who use NHS smoking cessation services

The NICE quality standard for smoking cessation sets out how a high-quality smoking cessation service should be organised so that the best care can be offered to people using NHS services in England.

NICE quality standard for smoking cessation

The quality standard for smoking cessation is made up of 5 statements that describe high-quality care for patients. These statements are about the best care you should receive and are summarised below.

1. People are asked if they smoke by their healthcare practitioner, and those who smoke are offered advice on how to stop.
2. People who smoke are offered a referral to an evidence-based smoking cessation service to help them stop smoking.
3. People who have been referred to an evidence-based smoking cessation service are offered behavioural support (which may be either individual or group counselling) together with drug treatment.
4. People who seek support to stop smoking and who agree to take pharmacotherapy are offered a full course of drug treatment.
5. People who smoke who have set a quit date with an evidence-based smoking cessation service are assessed for carbon monoxide levels 4 weeks after the quit date.



Your care

In the NHS, patients and healthcare professionals have rights and responsibilities as set out in the NHS Constitution (www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england). All NICE quality standards are written to reflect these. You have the right to be involved in discussions and make informed decisions about your treatment and care with your healthcare team. Your choices are important and healthcare professionals should support these wherever possible. You should be treated with dignity and respect.

Information from NICE about smoking cessation

The full quality standard for smoking cessation, written for healthcare professionals, is available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/QS43>.

NICE also produces guidance (advice) for the NHS in England and Wales about preventing, diagnosing and treating medical conditions, based on the best available evidence.

NICE has produced guidance on the following topics:

- Quitting smoking in pregnancy and following childbirth, available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/PH26>
- Smoking cessation services in primary care, pharmacies, local authorities and workplaces, particularly for manual working groups, pregnant women and hard to reach communities, available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/PH10>
- Brief interventions and referral for smoking cessation, available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/PH1>
- Varenicline for smoking cessation, available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA123>

This guidance was used, along with other sources of information, to develop this quality standard.

Information for the public about the care and treatment recommended in the NICE guidance on varenicline for smoking cessation is available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA123>. It is written to help patients, their families and carers to understand the care and treatment options that should be available in the NHS

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