

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD SCOPE

1 Quality standard title

Atopic eczema in children.

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 prevention and treatment 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) Children from birth up to the age of 12 years with a diagnosis/symptoms of atopic eczema.
- b) No patient subgroups have been identified as needing specific consideration.

3.1.2 Groups that will not be covered

- a) Children with infantile seborrhoeic eczema, juvenile plantar dermatosis, primary irritant and allergic contact dermatitis, napkin dermatitis, pompholyx and photosensitive eczema, except when these conditions occur in association with atopic eczema.

3.2 Healthcare settings

- a) Primary 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) Diagnosis and assessment.
- b) Management and treatment.
- c) Treatment of infected eczema.
- d) Referral.

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) will be used to develop the quality standard. If available, other NHS Evidence accredited sources will also be used.

4.1 Published sources

- [Atopic eczema in children](#). NICE clinical guideline 57 (2007; [Review decision](#), 2011).
- SIGN (2011) [Management of atopic eczema in primary care](#).

4.2 Related NICE quality standards

4.2.1 Published standards

- None identified.

4.2.2 Standards in development

- Psoriasis (expected publication date- Autumn 2013).

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.

- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (2011) [Allergy care pathways for children – eczema.](#)
- British Association of Dermatologists (2011) [Quality standards for dermatology – providing the right care for people with skin conditions.](#)
- National Institute for Health Research Service Delivery and Organisation Programme (2010) [Evaluating self-care support for children and young people with long-term conditions.](#)
- Primary Care Dermatological Society and British Association of Dermatologists (2009) [Guidelines for the management of atopic eczema.](#)
- Royal College of Nursing (2008) [Caring for children and young people with atopic eczema – guidance for nurses.](#)

4.4 Policy context

- Scottish Government (2011) [Improving maternal and infant nutrition: a framework for action.](#)

5 Further information

More information on quality standards is available in [Healthcare quality standards: process guide](#). Information on the [progress of this quality standard](#) is also available.