

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Autism in children, young people and adults

2 Introduction

2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are concise sets of statements designed to drive and measure priority quality improvements within a particular area of care.

The standards are derived from NICE guidance and other guidance [accredited](#) by NICE. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with NHS and social care professionals, their partners and service users. Recommendations relating to effectiveness and cost effectiveness, 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 an NHS 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 condition 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

The development of the quality standard will begin in March 2013 and is expected to take 10 months to complete. This quality standard will cover health and social care for autism in children, young people and adults. The following referrals for quality standard development in the core library will be covered by this quality standard:

- Autism (children and young people).
- Autism (adults).

The quality standard will also cover a further referral from the social care workstream:

- Autism in children and adults.

3.1 *Population and topic to be covered*

This quality standard will cover autism in children, young people and adults.

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

Primary source

- [Autism in adults](#). NICE clinical guideline 142 (2012)
- [Autism spectrum disorders in children and young people](#). NICE clinical guideline 128 (2011)
- [Improving access to social care for adults with autism](#). Social Care Institute for Excellence (2011)
- (In progress) [Autism: management of autism in children and young people](#). NICE clinical guideline. Publication expected August 2013.

Other sources that may be used

- [Good practice in autism training: a code of practice](#). National Autistic Society (2012)
- [Interview guide for the assessment of adults with autism spectrum disorders](#). Royal College of Psychiatrists (2011)
- [Autism skills and knowledge list, for workers in generic social care and health services](#). Skills for Health, Skills for Care (2011)
- [Patients with autistic spectrum disorders: guidance for health professionals](#). National Autistic Society (updated 2011)
- [Personalisation briefing: implications for people with autistic spectrum conditions and their family carers](#). Social Care Institute for Excellence (2010)

Key policy documents, reports and national audits

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

- [Transforming care: a national response to Winterbourne View Hospital Department of Health review: final report](#). Department of Health (2012)
- [Estimating the prevalence of autism spectrum conditions in adults: Extending the 2007 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey](#). The Information Centre for Health and Social Care (2012)
- [Health care for disabled children and young people – a review of how the health care needs of disabled children and young people are met by the commissioners and providers of health care in England](#). Care Quality Commission (2012)
- [Progress in implementing the 2010 Adult Autism Strategy](#). Department of Health/National Audit Office (2012)
- [Autism Self Assessment 2011: issues from local authorities](#). Improving Health and Lives: Learning Disabilities Observatory (2012)
- [What is good practice in autism education?](#) Autism Education Trust (2011)
- [Inclusion development programme: supporting children on the autism spectrum: guidance for practitioners in the early years](#). Department for Education (2009)

- [Social care: assessment of needs for adults with autism](#). National Autistic Society/British Association of Social Workers (2008)
- [Is no news good news? Exploring potential quality indicators in autism education](#). National Autistic Society (2006)
- [Sheffield survey of the health and social care needs of adolescents and adults with Asperger syndrome](#). Sheffield School of Health & Related Research University of Sheffield (2005)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard 2 (2012)
- [Service user experience in adult mental health](#). NICE quality standard (2011)

Quality standards topic library

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 the NICE quality standard topic library, including the following quality standards scheduled for future development:

- Conduct disorders in children and young people.

4 Existing indicators

- [Local Authority Autism Self Assessment, 2010/11](#). Learning disability observatory (Public Health England)

5 Further information

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