

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Antibiotics for neonatal infection

2 Introduction

2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are a concise set of prioritised statements designed to drive measurable quality improvements within a particular area of health or care.

The standards are derived from high-quality guidance, such as that from NICE or [accredited](#) by NICE. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with healthcare professionals and public health and social care practitioners, their partners and service users. Information on priority areas, 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 a health 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 topic 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 February 2014 and is expected to take 10 months to complete.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the use of antibiotics to prevent and treat neonatal infection in newborn babies (both term and preterm) from birth to 28 days in primary (including community) and secondary care. It includes antibiotics that are given to newborn babies or to mothers during intrapartum care to prevent neonatal infection (antibiotic prophylaxis).

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

Primary source

- [Antibiotics for early-onset neonatal infection](#). NICE clinical guideline 149 (2012)

Other sources that may be used

- [Feverish illness in children](#). NICE clinical guideline 160 (2013).
- [The prevention of early-onset neonatal group B streptococcal disease \(Green-top 36\)](#). Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2012).
- [Bacterial meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia](#). NICE clinical guideline 102 (2010).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE clinical guideline 62 (2008).
- [Intrapartum care](#). NICE clinical guideline 55 (2007).
- [Urinary tract infection in children](#). NICE clinical guideline 54 (2007).

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.

- [National Neonatal Audit Programme – annual report 2012](#). Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (2013).
- [Perinatal mortality 2009: United Kingdom](#). Centre for Maternal and Child Enquiries (2011).
- [Service standards for hospitals providing neonatal care \(3rd edition\)](#). British Association of Perinatal Medicine (2010).

3.3 *Related NICE quality standards*

Published

- [Multiple pregnancy](#). NICE quality standard 46 (2013).
- [Postnatal care](#). NICE quality standard 37 (2013).
- [Urinary tract infection in infants, children and young people under 16](#). NICE quality standard 36 (2013)
- [Caesarean section](#). NICE quality standard 32 (2013).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE quality standard 22 (2012).
- [Bacterial meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia](#). NICE quality standard 19 (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard 15 (2012).
- [Specialist neonatal care](#). NICE quality standard 4 (2010).

In development

- [Feverish illness in children](#). Publication expected July 2014

Future quality standards

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all quality standards referred to NICE, including the following quality standards scheduled for future development:

- Premature birth.

- Intrapartum care.

4 Existing indicators

- [Maternity services data set](#). Information Standards Board for Health and Social Care (2012).
- [Neonatal critical care minimum data set](#). Information Standards Board for Health and Social Care (2006).

5 Further information

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