

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

### 1 Quality standard title

Pressure ulcers

### 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 health, 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 August 2014 and is expected to take 10 months to complete.

#### **3.1 Population and topic to be covered**

This quality standard will cover preventing, assessing and managing pressure ulcers in people of all ages.

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

##### **Primary source**

- [Pressure ulcers](#) NICE clinical guideline 179 (2014).

##### **Other sources that may be used**

- [Commissioning care homes: common safeguarding challenges](#) SCIE guide 46 (2012).

##### **Key policy documents, reports and national audits**

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

- [Best practice statement: eliminating pressure ulcers](#) Wounds UK (2014).
- [Essence of Care 2010](#) Department of Health (2010).
- [Pressure ulcers under plaster casts: Signal](#) National patient safety agency (2009).

### **3.3 Related NICE quality standards**

#### **Published**

- [Infection prevention and control](#) NICE quality standard 61 (2014).
- [Faecal incontinence](#) NICE quality standard 54 (2014).
- [Peripheral arterial disease](#) NICE quality standard 52 (2014).
- [Nutrition support in adults](#) NICE quality standard 24 (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) NICE quality standard 15 (2012).
- [End of life care for adults](#) NICE quality standard 13 (2011).
- [Diabetes in adults](#) NICE quality standard 6 (2011).

#### **In development**

- [Urinary incontinence in women](#). Publication expected January 2015.

#### **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:

- Diabetes in children and young people.
- End of life care for infants, children and young people.
- Homecare.
- Multiple sclerosis.
- Nutrition in hospital, including young people.
- Social care of older people with more than one physical or mental long term condition in residential or community settings.

## **4 Existing indicators**

- [The NHS Outcomes Framework 2014/15](#) Department of Health. Domain 5, treating and caring for people in a safe environment and protecting them from avoidable harm. Improvement area: reducing the incidence of avoidable harm. 5.3 Proportion of patients with category 2, 3 and 4 pressure ulcers.

- [Commissioning for Quality and Innovation 2014/15 guidance](#) NHS England. Improvement against the NHS Safety Thermometer, particularly pressure ulcers. NHS England.

## **5 Further information**

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