



Diabetes: asking about erectile dysfunction

NICE indicator

Published: 1 August 2012

Last updated: 29 June 2022

www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind105

Indicator

The percentage of male patients with diabetes with a record of being asked about erectile dysfunction in the preceding 15 months.

Indicator type

General practice indicator suitable for use in the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

This document does not represent formal NICE guidance. For a full list of NICE indicators, see our [menu of indicators](#).

To find out how to use indicators and how we develop them, see our [NICE indicator process guide](#).

Rationale

Erectile dysfunction is a manifestation of autonomic neuropathy as a complication of long-term hyperglycaemia and as such is a common complication of diabetes. Erectile dysfunction is a traumatic complication for some men with diabetes. Although not perceived as life-threatening, it can have a significant impact on the quality of life for men with diabetes, their partners and families.

Source guidance

- [Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management. NICE guideline NG17 \(2015, updated 2022\)](#), recommendation 1.14.36
- [Type 2 diabetes in adults: management. NICE guideline NG28 \(2015, updated 2026\)](#), recommendation 1.42.1

Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator with a record of being asked about erectile dysfunction in the preceding 15 months.

Denominator: The number of male patients on the diabetes register.

Calculation: Numerator divided by the denominator, multiplied by 100.

Exclusions: None

Personalised care adjustments or exception reporting should be considered to account for situations where the patient declines, does not attend or if asking about erectile dysfunction is not appropriate.

Expected population size: [National Diabetes Audit data for 2023 to 2024](#) and ONS mid-year population data for 2024 shows that 3.7% of people are included in the audit and are male: 366 patients for an average practice with 10,000 patients. To be suitable for use in QOF, there should be more than 20 patients eligible for inclusion in the denominator, per average practice with 10,000 patients, prior to application of personalised care adjustments.

Update information

Minor changes since publication

February 2026: We updated the source guidance information to align with the update to NICE's guideline on type 2 diabetes in adults and added expected population size.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-6079-8