



Bipolar, schizophrenia and other psychoses: annual record of alcohol consumption

NICE indicator

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www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind82

Indicator

The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a record of alcohol consumption 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

Substance misuse by people with schizophrenia is increasingly recognised as a major problem, both in terms of its prevalence and its clinical and social effects. Bipolar disorder is also highly comorbid with alcohol and other substance abuse. The indicator requires regular alcohol screening in people with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses. Improved alcohol screening will ensure that people can access the support they may need to reduce their alcohol consumption.

Source guidance

- [Bipolar disorder: assessment and management. NICE guideline CG185](#) (2014, updated 2025), recommendation 1.10.2
- [Alcohol-use disorders: prevention. NICE guideline PH24](#) (2010), recommendations 6, 7 and 9

Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator who have a record of alcohol consumption in the preceding 15 months.

Denominator: The number of patients on the mental health register with a diagnosis of psychosis, schizophrenia or bipolar affective disease.

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

Exclusions: People whose most recent diagnosis of schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses is in remission.

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance at individual general practice level.

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