

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Blood transfusion

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

This quality standard is expected to publish in December 2016.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the general principles of blood transfusion in adults, young people and children over 1 year old. It will not cover specific conditions.

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

Primary source

- [Blood transfusion](#) (2015) NICE guideline NG24

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.

- Department of Health (2014) [Platelet transfusion infection: risk review](#)
- Public Health England (2013) [Safe supplies: annual review](#)
- Royal College of Nursing (2013) [Right blood, right patient, right time: RCN guidance for improving transfusion practice](#)
- United Kingdom Blood Transfusion Services (2013) [Handbook of transfusion medicine](#)
- NHS Blood and Transplant (2012) [National comparative audit of blood transfusion: Annual report 2011/12](#)
- National Patient Safety Agency (2006) [Right patient, right blood: advice for safer blood transfusions](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15

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:

- Major trauma
- Trauma services

The full list of quality standard topics referred to NICE is available from the [quality standard topic library](#) on the NICE website.

4 Existing indicators

- Department of Health (2014) [NHS Outcomes Framework 2015 to 2016](#):
 - 1a Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) from causes considered amenable to healthcare i) Adults ii) Children and young people.

5 Further information

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