

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

### 1 Quality standard title

Rehabilitation after critical illness

### 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 August 2017.

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

This quality standard will cover adults with rehabilitation needs as a result of a period of critical illness that required level 2 or level 3 critical care<sup>1</sup>.

This quality standard will not cover people with conditions for which published quality standards already include specialist rehabilitation after a critical care stay – such as head injury, myocardial infarction and stroke.

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

##### **Primary source**

- [Rehabilitation after critical illness in adults](#) CG83 (2009)

##### **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.

- [The National Clinical Audit of Specialist Rehabilitation for Patients with Complex Needs Following Major Injury](#) - Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), NHS England and the Welsh Government (2016)
- [Commissioning guidance for Rehabilitation](#), NHS England (2016)

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<sup>1</sup> Critical care is used as a term that encompasses intensive care or intensive therapy; provided in intensive care units (ICUs) or intensive therapy units (ITUs), together with what used to be called high dependency care provided in high-dependency units (HDUs). Intensive care, or level 3 care, generally involves the support of one or more failing organ system, usually including the lungs, whereas high dependency care, or level 2 care, supports one system. Recently the distinctions have become blurred, hence the increasing use of the term critical care.

- [Guidelines for the provision of intensive care services](#). The faculty of intensive care medicine (2015)
- [Rehabilitation for patients in the acute care pathway following severe disabling illness or injury](#). British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine (2014)
- [The Rehabilitation Prescription - Standard & Specialist](#). British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine (2014)
- [Specialist Rehabilitation for Patients with Highly Complex Needs](#), NHS England (2013)
- [Core Standards for Intensive Care Units](#). The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine / The Intensive Care Society (2013)

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

In March 2012, the Department of Health referred a library of quality standard topics for the NHS to NICE for development.

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all topics in the NICE [library of quality standards](#). Rehabilitation after critical illness is relevant to a wide range of conditions and diseases and a range of equality groups and general health and wellbeing.

#### **Published**

- [Stroke in adults](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 2
- [Pneumonia in adults](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 110
- [Acute heart failure](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 103
- [Secondary prevention after a myocardial infarction](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 99
- [Head injury](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 74
- [Acute coronary syndromes in adults](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 68
- [Delirium in adults](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 63
- [Anxiety disorders](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 53
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15
- [Depression in adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 8

## 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:

- Complex fractures
- Fractures
- Major trauma

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

- Health and social care information centre, [Adult Critical Care Data in England - April 2014 to March 2015](#)
- [NHS outcomes framework 2016/17](#) Domain 3: Helping people to recover from episodes of ill health or following injury, Improvement area: Helping older people to recover their independence after illness or injury
  - 3.6 i Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation service (ASCOF 2B[1]\*)
  - 3.6 ii Proportion offered rehabilitation following discharge from acute or community hospital (ASCOF 2B[2]\*)

## 5 Further information

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