

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Emergency and acute medical care in over 16s

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 September 2018.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the organisation and delivery of emergency and acute medical care in the community and in hospital. It will include young people (16-17 years) and adults (18 years and over) who seek, or are referred for emergency NHS care for a suspected or confirmed acute medical emergency. This quality standard will not cover acute clinical management of specific medical conditions requiring urgent or emergency care as this will be addressed within the quality standards for the relevant conditions.

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

Primary source

- [Emergency and acute medical care in over 16s: service delivery and organisation](#)
NICE guideline expected 1 December 2017.

We are aware that publication of the final guideline occurs after this engagement exercise. At this stage, stakeholders are asked to suggest key areas for quality improvement using the draft guideline.

Other sources that may be used

- [End of life care for adults in the last year of life: service delivery](#) (2018) NICE guideline XX (in development).
- [Intermediate care including reablement](#) (2017) NICE guideline NG74
- [Transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care home settings for adults with social care needs](#) (2015) NICE guideline NG27
- [Acutely ill patients in hospital](#) (2007) NICE guideline CG50.

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.

NICE quality standard: Emergency and acute medical care in over 16s overview (November 2017)

- NHS England (2017) [A&E Attendances and Emergency Admissions](#)
- NHS England (2017) [NHS Five Year Forward View: Next steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View: Urgent and emergency care](#)
- NHS England (2017) [Transforming urgent and emergency care services in England Urgent & Emergency Care Consolidated Channel Shift Model User Guide](#)
- NHS England (2017) [Urgent Treatment Centres – Principles and Standards](#)
- Public Health England (2017) [Emergency department: weekly bulletins for 2017](#)
- NHS Digital (2017) [Emergency Care Data Set](#)
- NHS England (2016) [Achieving Better Access to 24/7 Urgent and Emergency Mental Health Care – Part 2: Implementing the Evidence-based Treatment Pathway for Urgent and Emergency Liaison Mental Health Services for Adults and Older Adults – Guidance](#)
- NHS England (2016) [The Keogh Urgent and Emergency Care Review](#)
- NHS England (2016) [Integrated Urgent Care Key Performance Indicators 2016/17](#)
- NHS Improvement (2016) [Rapid improvement guides for urgent and emergency care](#)
- NHS National Staff Survey (2016) [Feedback reports](#)

3.3 *Related NICE quality standards*

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all topics in the [NICE library of quality standards](#). The organisation and delivery of emergency and acute medical care in the community and in hospital is relevant to a wide range of conditions and diseases.

Published

- [Transition between inpatient mental health settings and community or care home settings](#) (2017) NICE quality standard 159.
- [End of life care for adults](#) (2011, updated 2017) NICE quality standard 14.
- [Intravenous fluid therapy in adults in hospital](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 66.
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15.
- [Service user experience in adult mental health services](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 14.

In development

- [Trauma](#). Publication expected March 2018.
- [Intermediate care including reablement](#). Publication expected August 2018.

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:

- Readmission to ICU within 48hrs.

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 [NHS Outcomes Framework 2016 to 2017](#): 3a Emergency admissions for acute conditions that should not usually require hospital admission; 3b Emergency readmissions within 30 days of discharge from hospital; 4.3 Patient experience of A&E services.
- Department of Health [Public Health Outcomes Framework 2016 to 2019](#): 4.11 Emergency readmissions within 30 days of discharge from hospital.
- NHS England [CCG improvement and assessment framework 2016/17](#): 106b. Inequality in emergency admissions for urgent care sensitive conditions; 127a. Achievement of milestones in the delivery of an integrated urgent care service; 127b. Emergency admissions for urgent care sensitive conditions; 127c. Percentage of patients admitted, transferred or discharged from A&E within 4 hours; 127e. Delayed transfers of care per 100,000 population; 127f. Population use of hospital beds following emergency admission; 128a. Management of long term conditions

5 Further information

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