

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Asthma

This quality standard will replace the existing NICE quality standard for asthma (QS25). The topic was identified for update following the annual review of quality standards in 2017. The review identified a new NICE guideline on asthma as well as changes in the areas for improvement for asthma.

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 diagnosing, monitoring and managing asthma in children, young people and adults.

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

Primary source

- [Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management](#) (2017) NICE guideline NG80

Other sources that may be used

- British Thoracic Society/Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (2016) [British guideline on the management of asthma](#)

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.

- British Thoracic Society (2017) [Report of the National BTS Adult Asthma Audit 2016](#)
- NHS England (2017) [Specialised respiratory services \(adult\) – Severe asthma](#)
- Royal College of Emergency Medicine (2017) [Moderate & Acute Severe Asthma: Clinical Audit 2016/17 National Report](#)
- Royal College of Physicians (2017) [Asthma audit development project: information and resources](#)

- Asthma UK (2016) [Annual Asthma Survey 2016 report](#)
- British Thoracic Society (2016) [2015 BTS Paediatric Asthma Audit Summary Report](#)
- Asthma UK (2014) [Patient safety failures in asthma care: the scale of unsafe prescribing in the UK](#)
- Royal College of Physicians (2014) [Why asthma still kills: The National Review of Asthma Deaths \(NRAD\) Confidential Enquiry Report](#)
- Department of Health (2012) [An Outcomes Strategy for COPD and Asthma: NHS Companion Document](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in adults](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 10
- [Transition from children's to adults' services](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 140
- [Medicines optimisation](#) (2016) NICE quality standard 120
- [Smoking: supporting people to stop](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 43
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15

In development

- Emergency and acute medical care in over 16s. Publication expected September 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:

- Air pollution: outdoor air quality and health
- Community pharmacy: promoting health and wellbeing
- Indoor air pollution
- Infant, children and young people's experience of health care
- School-based interventions: health promotion and mental well-being

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

- [Quality and outcomes framework \(QOF\) for England 2017/18](#): AST001 The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with asthma, excluding patients with asthma who have been prescribed no asthma-related drugs in the preceding 12 months; AST002 The percentage of patients aged 8 or over with asthma (diagnosed on or after 1 April 2006), on the register, with measures of variability or reversibility recorded between 3 months before or anytime after diagnosis; AST003 The percentage of patients with asthma, on the register, who have had an asthma review in the preceding 12 months that includes an assessment of asthma control using the 3 RCP questions; AST004 The percentage of patients with asthma aged 14 or over and who have not attained the age of 20, on the register, in whom there is a record of smoking status in the preceding 12 months
- [NHS Outcomes Framework 2016/17](#): 2.3ii Unplanned hospitalisation for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy in under 19s (also CCG Outcomes Indicator Set 2.7)
- NHS Digital [Compendium of Population Health Indicators](#): Mortality from asthma; Emergency hospital admissions – children with asthma; Years of life lost due to mortality from asthma; Local Basket of Inequalities Indicator (LBOI) 8.7 Emergency admissions rate for asthma and diabetes per 100,000 population (age and sex standardised)

5 Further information

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