

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Contraceptive services

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 2016.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover contraceptive services and methods of contraception for men and women, including emergency contraceptives. It applies to young people (under 25) and adults. This includes all women of child bearing potential, and young people under 16 who are competent to consent to contraceptive treatment under the Department of Health's [Best practice guidance for doctors and other health professionals on the provision of advice and treatment to young people under 16 on contraception, sexual and reproductive health](#).

It will not cover sexual health or reducing sexually transmitted infections. These will be covered by separate standards, see 'Future standards' in section 3.3.

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

Primary sources

- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (2015) [Progestogen-only pills](#) clinical guideline
- [Contraceptive services with a focus on young people up to the age of 25](#). (2014) NICE guideline PH51
- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (2012) [Barrier methods for contraception and STI prevention](#) clinical guideline

- [Prevention of sexually transmitted infections and under 18 conceptions.](#) (2007) NICE guideline PH3
- [Long-acting reversible contraception \(update\)](#) (2005) NICE guideline CG30

Other sources that may be used

- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (2015) [Intrauterine contraception](#) clinical guideline
- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (2014) [Progestogen-only injectable contraception](#) clinical guideline
- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (2014) [Progestogen-only implants](#) clinical guideline
- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2014) [Contraceptive choices for women with cardiac disease.](#)

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.

- Public Health England (2015) [Sexual and reproductive health in England: local and national data](#)
- World Health Organization (2014) [Ensuring human rights in the provision of contraceptive information and services](#)
- Health and Social Care Information Centre (2014) [NHS contraceptive services, England – 2013–14, Community contraceptive clinics \[NS\]](#)
- Department of Health (2013) [Commissioning sexual health services and interventions: best practice guidance for local authorities](#)
- Abortion review UK (2012) [UK: Contraceptive services not reaching all women, audit finds](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Diabetes in adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 6

NICE quality standard: contraceptive services overview (November 2015)

In development

- [Antenatal and postnatal mental health](#). Publication expected October 2015

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:

- HIV testing: encouraging uptake
- Reducing sexually transmitted infections
- Sexual health across the lifecourse

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

- None identified.

5 Further information

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