

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Home care for older people

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 June 2016.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover home care for older people living at home assessed as needing social care support. While almost 80% of people using home care are over 65, the quality standard may also be relevant to some people under 65 such as those with early-onset dementia. The quality standard will not cover home care for younger adults or children using home care services.

Home care usually includes support with personal care, activities of daily living and essential domestic tasks. This support can help people to stay independent and to take part in social and other activities. Home care is primarily funded by local authorities or the person themselves, but may also be funded by healthcare commissioners.

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

Primary source

- [Home care](#) (2015) NICE guideline NG21

Other sources that may be used

- Social Care Institute for Excellence (2014) [Commissioning home care for older people](#)

Key policy documents, legislation, reports and national audits

Relevant policy documents, reports and national audits will be used to inform the development of the quality standard.

- United Kingdom Homecare Association (2015) [An overview of the UK domiciliary care market](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Fairer charging policies for home care and other non-residential social services: guidance for councils with social services responsibilities](#)
- Local Government Information Unit (2014) [Key to care: Report of the Burstow Commission on the future of the home care workforce](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Care Act 2014](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Care and support statutory guidance](#)
- Care Quality Commission (2013) [Not just a number - home care inspection programme: national overview](#)
- Department of Health (2013) [The Cavendish review: an independent review into healthcare assistants and support workers in the NHS and social care settings](#)
- Good Governance Institute (2012) [Summary briefing of care and support at home: an audit of telecare services in England](#)
- UNISON (2012) [Time to care: a UNISON report into homecare](#)
- Which (2012) From Breakfast to Evening. Which October 2012, p58-61
- Department of Health (2011) [Working for personalised care: a framework for supporting personal assistants working in adult social care](#)
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2011) [Close to home: an inquiry into older people and human rights in home care](#)

3.3 *Related NICE quality standards*

Published

- [Pressure ulcers](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 89.
- [Supporting people to live well with dementia](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 30.
- [Nutrition support in adults](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 24.

- [End of life care for adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 13.
- [Dementia](#) (2010) NICE quality standard 1.

In development

- [Preventing excess winter deaths and morbidity](#) Publication expected March 2016.

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:

- Care and support of older people with learning disabilities.
- Falls: prevention.
- Falls: regaining independence for older people who experience a fall.
- Medicines management: managing the use of medicines in community settings for people receiving social care.
- Older people: promoting mental wellbeing and independence through primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.
- Pain management (young people and adults).
- Regaining independence (Reablement): short term interventions to help people to regain independence.
- Service user and carer experience of social care.
- Social care of older people with multiple long term conditions.
- Supporting decision making in people who lack mental capacity.
- Transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care home settings.
- Transition between inpatient mental health settings and community and care home settings.
- Vulnerable populations: strategies for tackling inequalities.

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 Social Care Outcomes](#)

5 Further information

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