

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Liver disease

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 2017.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the identification, assessment and management of liver disease in adults, young people and children. It will include:

- alcohol-related liver disease
- the identification of people with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease who have advanced liver fibrosis and are most at risk of further complications
- liver disease associated with hepatitis B or C
- cirrhosis in people over 16.

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

Primary sources

- [Cirrhosis in over 16s](#) (2016) NICE guideline NG50.
- [Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease \(NAFLD\)](#) (2016) NICE guideline NG49.
- [Hepatitis B \(chronic\)](#) (2013) NICE guideline CG165.
- [Hepatitis B and C testing: people at risk of infection](#) (2013) NICE guideline PH43.
- [Alcohol-use disorders: diagnosis and management of physical complications](#) (2010) NICE guideline CG100.

Other sources that may be used

- [SonoVue \(sulphur hexafluoride microbubbles\) – contrast agent for contrast-enhanced ultrasound imaging of the liver](#) (2012) NICE diagnostics guidance DG5.

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) [Liver disease in the south west: a health needs assessment](#)
- British Transplantation Society (2015) [Living Donor Liver Transplantation](#)
- Department of Health (2015) [Living well for longer: progress 1 year on](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Helping people live well for longer](#)
- All-Party Parliamentary Hepatology Group (2014) [Liver disease: Today's complacency, tomorrow's catastrophe](#)
- Right Care (2013) [NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for People with Liver Disease](#)
- National End of Life Care Intelligence Network (2012) [Deaths from liver disease: Implications for end of life care in England](#)

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](#). Liver disease and cirrhosis is relevant to a wide range of conditions and diseases.

Published

- [Alcohol: preventing harmful use in the community](#) (2015) NICE quality standard 83
- [Hepatitis B](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 65

- [Acute upper gastrointestinal bleeding in adults](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 38
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 15
- [End of life care for adults](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 13
- [Alcohol-use disorders: diagnosis and management](#) (2011) NICE quality standard 11

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

- Public Health England [Liver disease profiles](#)
- [NHS Outcomes Framework 2016 to 2017](#) 1.3 Under 75 mortality rate from liver disease
- [CCG Outcomes Indicator Set 2015/16](#) C1.7 Under 75 mortality rates from liver disease; C1.8 Emergency admissions for alcohol related liver disease

5 Further information

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