

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE quality standards

Equality impact assessment

Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system

The impact on equality has been assessed during quality standard development according to the principles of the NICE equality policy.

1. TOPIC ENGAGEMENT STAGE

1.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during this stage of the development process?
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No potential equality issues have been identified at this stage.
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However, NICE guideline NG66 (Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system) noted in the equality assessment that there is a high prevalence of learning disabilities and neurodevelopmental disorders in the criminal justice system for adults with mental health conditions. The needs of women, older adults, transgender people, young black men and young adults that have transitioned from juvenile services were also specifically considered during guideline development. Some of these groups may be at risk of issues such as non-adherence to treatment or not accessing medical care. This will be considered during the quality standard development.
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1.2 Have any population groups, treatments or settings been excluded from coverage by the quality standard at this stage in the process. Are these exclusions justified – that is, are the reasons legitimate and the exclusion proportionate?
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This quality standard covers adults in contact with the criminal justice system. Children and young people (under 18 years) are excluded as they will receive care specific to their age-related needs that will not be covered by this quality standard.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Eileen Taylor

Date: 24.04.2017

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 08.05.2017

2. PRE-CONSULTATION STAGE

2.1 Have any potential equality issues been identified during the development of the quality standard (including those identified during the topic engagement process)? How have they been addressed?

The quality standard makes it clear that adults with a mental health problem who are in contact with the criminal justice system and have a learning disability, acquired cognitive impairment or a communication difficulty should be provided with information that they can easily read and understand themselves, or with support, so they can communicate effectively with police and mental health services. Information should be in a format that suits their needs and preferences. It should be accessible to people who do not speak or read English, and it should be culturally appropriate and age appropriate. People should have access to an interpreter or advocate if needed. For people with additional needs related to a disability, impairment or sensory loss, information should be provided as set out in NHS England's Accessible Information Standard.

2.2 Have any changes to the scope of the quality standard been made as a result of topic engagement to highlight potential equality issues?

No changes have been made to the scope of the quality standard at this stage.

2.3 Do the draft quality statements make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

None of the quality statements make it more difficult for a specific group to access services.

2.4 Is there potential for the draft quality statements to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No potential for the draft quality statements to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities has been identified.

2.5 Are there any recommendations or explanations that the committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in questions 2.1, 2.2 or 2.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligation to advance equality?

None required at this stage.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Eileen Taylor

Date: 18 July 2017

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 31 August 2017

Post-consultation stage

3. Final quality standard

3.1 Have any additional potential equality issues been raised during the consultation stage, and, if so, how has the committee addressed them?

The QSAC noted that people with learning disability or cognitive impairment (for example brain injury, dementia or autism) who have a mental health condition may need additional support whilst in contact with the criminal justice system. Statements 1 – 4 note this within the equalities sections.

It is potentially unsafe for adults with a mental health problem to be released from prison into homelessness or temporary accommodation therefore statement 4 notes that probation services, community mental health services and the local authority should work together to find permanent suitable accommodation.

3.2 If the quality statements have changed after the consultation stage, are there any that make it more difficult in practice for a specific group to access services compared with other groups? If so, what are the barriers to, or difficulties with, access for the specific group?

None of the statements will make it more difficult for any specific groups to access services.

3.3 If the quality statements have changed after consultation, is there potential for the recommendations to have an adverse impact on people with disabilities because of something that is a consequence of the disability?

No adverse impacts have been identified.

3.4 If the quality statements have changed after consultation, are there any recommendations or explanations that the Committee could make to remove or alleviate barriers to, or difficulties with, access to services identified in questions 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, or otherwise fulfil NICE's obligations to advance equality?

No adverse impacts have been identified.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Eileen Taylor

Date: 28 November 2017

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 8 January 2018

4. After Guidance Executive amendments – if applicable

4.1 Outline amendments agreed by Guidance Executive below, if applicable:

No changes required.

Completed by lead technical analyst: Eileen Taylor

Date: 16 January 2018

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead: Nick Baillie

Date: 16 January 2018