

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

### 1 Quality standard title

Drug misuse prevention

### 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 March 2018.

#### **3.1 Population and topic to be covered**

This quality standard will cover the prevention or delay of harmful use of drugs by children, young people and adults most likely to start using drugs, or already experimenting or using drugs occasionally. This includes illegal drugs, 'legal highs' and prescription-only medicines. It will not cover people who are already dependent on drugs, people who use drugs regularly and excessively, or people who are part of on-going drug treatment and recovery. A quality standard has already been developed for [drug use disorders in adults](#) which covers the treatment of adults (18 years or over) who use drugs.

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

##### **Primary source**

- [Drug misuse prevention: targeted interventions](#) (2017) NICE guideline NG64.

##### **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 (2016) [Adults – drugs JSNA support pack 2017-18: commissioning prompts](#)
- Public Health England (2016) [Young people – substance misuse JSNA support pack 2017-18: commissioning prompts](#)

- Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (2015) [Prevention of drug and alcohol dependence](#)
- Home Office (2015) [Drug strategy annual review: 2014 to 2015](#)
- Royal College of Psychiatrists (2015) [Substance misuse in older people: An information guide](#)
- Department for Education (2012) [DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools](#)
- Home Office (2010) [Drug strategy 2010](#)
- National Audit Office (2010) [Tackling problem drug use](#)
- Government Office for Science (2005) [Drugs futures 2025.](#)

### **3.3 Related NICE quality standards**

#### **Published**

- [Antisocial behaviour and conduct disorders in children and young people](#) (2014) NICE quality standard 59
- [Looked after children and young people](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 31
- [Drug use disorders](#) (2012) NICE quality standard 23.

#### **In development**

- [Physical health of people in prison](#). Publication expected September 2017.
- Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system. Publication expected January 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:

- Programme management: effective ways to run public health programmes to generate a change in behaviour
- School-based interventions: health promotion and mental well-being
- 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**

- NHS Digital [Statistics on drugs misuse](#).

## **5 Further information**

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