

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE quality standards

Equality impact assessment

Child abuse and neglect

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?
Disabled children and young people are at greater risk of abuse and neglect, particularly children and young people with communication impairments and behavioural disorders. Recognition and assessment may take longer to be recognised in this group and also in children and young people with long term conditions, because signs of neglect and abuse may be confused with the underlying disability or condition. Some types of neglect and abuse may be more prevalent in different ethnic groups, for example, female genital mutilation and forced marriages are linked to cultural and religious practices in a number of minority ethnic communities in the UK.

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?
No population groups or settings have been excluded from coverage at this stage.

Completed by lead technical analyst _____ Anna Wasielewska _____

Date _____ 27/10/2017 _____

Approved by NICE quality assurance lead _____ Nick Baillie _____

Date _____ 7/11/2017 _____

1.0.7 DOC EIA

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?

At topic engagement the following issues were identified:

- disabled children and young people being at greater risk of abuse and neglect (children and young people with communication impairments and behavioural disorders being at particularly high risk)
- recognition and assessment may be delayed in children and young people with disabilities, communication impairments, behavioural disorders, long term conditions - signs of abuse and neglect may be confused with the underlying disability or condition
- some types of neglect and abuse being more prevalent in different ethnic groups, for example, female genital mutilation and forced marriages are linked to cultural and religious practices in a number of minority ethnic communities in the UK.

None of these groups are specifically excluded from the draft quality statements, however all children and young people with communication problems have been highlighted by equality and diversity considerations:

- young age (inability to speak or read)
- disabilities
- speech and language problems
- language barrier

These issues need to be considered when implementing each quality statement and applying it to an individual as children and young people will have diverse needs.

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?

Effective communication is key for successful implementation of all the statements. Children and young people with communication problems have to be supported and facilitated to fully engage with the services and processes.

Statement 4 - It may be more difficult for children and young people who are in temporary accommodation or move between placements to receive support from a consistent group of practitioners.

1.0.7 DOC EIA

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?

There is no potential for an adverse impact on people with disabilities.

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?

The equality and diversity considerations sections throughout the quality standard recognise the need to support people with communication needs to fully engage with the services and processes.

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Date _____23/08/2018_____

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