

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

## QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

### 1 Quality standard title

Induction of labour

### 2 Introduction

#### 2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are concise sets 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 healthcare professionals and 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**

The development of the quality standard will begin in July 2013 and is expected to take 10 months to complete.

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

This quality standard will cover the induction of labour in a hospital maternity unit. The quality standard will not cover the induction of labour for women with diabetes or women with multifetal pregnancy; it will not cover augmentation (rather than induction) of labour.

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

##### **Primary sources**

- [Induction of labour](#). NICE clinical guideline 70 (2008).

##### **Other sources that may be used**

- Guidelines for the management of HIV infection in pregnant women. British HIV Association (2012).
- [Caesarean section](#). NICE clinical guideline 132 (2011).
- [Multiple pregnancy](#). NICE clinical guideline 129 (2011).
- [Pregnancy and complex social factors](#). NICE clinical guideline 110 (2010).
- [Hypertension in pregnancy](#). NICE clinical guideline 107 (2010).
- Late intrauterine fetal death and stillbirth (Green-top no. 55). Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2010).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE clinical guideline 62 (2008).
- [Intrapartum care](#). NICE clinical guideline 55 (2007).

## Key policy documents, reports and national audits

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

- [Inducing labour](#). NHS Choices (2013).
- [Induction of labour at term in older mothers \(Scientific Impact Paper no. 34\)](#). Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2013).
- [Induction of labour](#). Map of Medicine (2012).
- [WHO recommendations for induction of labour](#). World Health Organization (2011).
- [Management of women with obesity in pregnancy](#). Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2010).
- [Labour – active management and induction](#). Patient UK (2009).

### 3.3 *Related NICE quality standards*

#### Published

- [Postnatal care](#). NICE quality standard 37 (2013).
- [Hypertension in pregnancy](#). NICE quality standard 35 (2013).
- [Caesarean section](#). NICE quality standard 32 (2013).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE quality standard 22 (2012).

#### In development

- [Multiple pregnancy](#). NICE quality standard (publication expected September 2013).

#### 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:

- Pre-term labour and birth.

## 4 Existing indicators

No indicators identified.

## 5 Further information

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