

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Delirium

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 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 October 2013 and is expected to take 10 months to complete.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the diagnosis, prevention and management of delirium in adults (18 years and over).

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

Primary source

- [Delirium](#). NICE clinical guideline 103 (2010).

Other sources that may be used

- [Prevention, diagnosis and management of delirium in older people](#). Royal College of Physicians (2006).

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.

- [Continuity of care for older hospital patients: A call for action](#). King's Fund (2012).
- [The care of frail older people with complex needs: time for a revolution](#). King's Fund (2012).
- [Elective and Emergency Surgery in the Elderly: An Age Old Problem](#). National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (2010).

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

- [Supporting people to live well with dementia](#). NICE quality standard 30 (2013).
- [Hip fracture in adults](#). NICE quality standard 16 (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard 15 (2012).
- [Dementia](#). NICE quality standard 1 (2010).

4 Existing indicators

None identified.

5 Further information

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