

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Pain and bleeding in early pregnancy

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 care of women who experience pain or bleeding in their first trimester (up to 13 completed weeks of pregnancy), including the diagnosis and initial management of ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage.

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

Primary source

- [Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage](#). NICE clinical guideline 154 (2012).

Other sources that may be used

- [The management of twin and triplet pregnancies in the antenatal period](#). NICE clinical guideline 129 (2011).
- [Gestational trophoblastic disease \(Green-top 38\)](#). Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2010).
- [Hypertension in pregnancy](#). NICE clinical guideline 107 (2010).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE clinical guideline 62 (2008).

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.

- [NHS maternity statistics 2011–12 summary report](#). The Health and Social Care Information Centre, Hospital Episode Statistics (2012).

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Multiple pregnancy](#). NICE quality standard 46 (2013).
- [Hypertension in pregnancy](#). NICE quality standards 35 (2013).
- [Antenatal care](#). NICE quality standard 22 (2012).
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard 15 (2012).

In development

- None identified

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:

- Diabetes in pregnancy.
- Provision of termination of pregnancy services.

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](#).