

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Sarcoma

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 April 2014 and is expected to take 10 months to complete.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover the diagnosis, treatment, support and follow up of sarcoma in children, young people and adults.

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

Primary source

- [Sarcoma](#). NICE Cancer Service Guidance (2006).

Other sources that may be used

- [Dataset for cancer histopathology reports on soft tissue sarcomas](#). Royal College of Pathologists - cancer datasets (2014)
- [HIV-associated malignancies](#). British HIV Association (2014)
- [Dataset for histological reporting of uterine sarcomas](#). Royal College of Pathologists - cancer datasets (2011)
- [Mifamurtide for the treatment of osteosarcoma](#). NICE technology appraisal guidance 235 (2011)
- [Skin tumours including melanoma](#). NICE Cancer Service Guidance (2010)
- [Trabectedin for the treatment of advanced soft tissue sarcoma](#). NICE technology appraisal guidance 185 (2010)

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.

- [National Peer Review Report: Cancer Services 2012/2013](#). National Cancer Peer Review Programme (2013)
- Service Specification: [Cancer Soft Tissue Sarcoma \(Adult\)](#). NHS England (2013)
- Service Specification: [Primary Malignant Bone Tumours Service \(Adults and Adolescents\)](#). NHS England (2013)
- [The national cancer strategy: 3rd annual report](#). Department of Health (2013)
- [Wales cancer patient experience survey 2013](#). Welsh Assembly Government (2013)
- [National Cancer Patient Experience Survey 2011/12](#). Department of Health (2012)
- [Together for health: cancer delivery plan for the NHS to 2016](#). Welsh Assembly Government (2012)
- [Improving outcomes: a strategy for cancer](#). Department of Health (2011)
- [Commissioning Cancer Services](#). Department of Health (2011).

3.3 *Related NICE quality standards*

Published

- [Children and young people with cancer](#). NICE quality standard 55 (2014)
- [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#). NICE quality standard 15 (2012).
- [End of life care for adults](#). NICE quality standard 13 (2011)

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:

- Referral for suspected cancer.

- Transition from children's to adult services.
- End of life care for infants, children and young people.

4 Existing indicators

- [NHS Outcomes Framework 2014-15](#). Improvement area 1.4 under 75 mortality rate from cancer.
- [Manual for Cancer Services Sarcoma Measures Version 1.0](#). National Peer Review Programme.

5 Further information

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