



# Diabetes: IFCC-HbA1c 58mmol/ mol or less

NICE indicator

Published: 1 August 2016

Last updated: 5 April 2022

[www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind165](https://www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind165)

## Indicator

The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 58 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months.

## Indicator type

General practice indicator suitable for use in the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

This document does not represent formal NICE guidance. For a full list of NICE indicators, see our [menu of indicators](#)

To find out how to use indicators and how we develop them, see our [NICE indicator process guide](#)

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## Rationale

Optimal blood glucose control is associated with a reduction in diabetes complications. An individual target for IFCC-HbA1c levels should be set to balance the benefits with harms.

For the purposes of primary care indicators, 3 separate clinical practice targets were adopted: HbA1c 58, 64 and 75 mmol/mol (IND164, IND135 and IND136). These targets are higher than the lower level recommended by the guidance, which may not be achievable or appropriate for all people. The 3 indicators aim to improve blood glucose control across the distribution of HbA1c values in the population with type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

## Source guidance

Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management. NICE guideline NG17 (2015, updated 2022), recommendations 1.6.6 and 1.6.9

Type 2 diabetes in adults: management. NICE guideline NG28 (2015, updated 2022), recommendations 1.6.8 and 1.6.9

## Specification

**Numerator:** The number of patients in the denominator in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 58 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months.

**Denominator:** The number of patients with diabetes, on the register.

**Calculation:** Numerator divided by the denominator, multiplied by 100.

**Exclusions:**

- patients who had measurement of serum fructosamine instead of HbA1c in previous 12 months
- patients who have a blood test exception code recorded in the preceding 12 months
- patients who are on maximum tolerated diabetes treatment in the preceding 12 months

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Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance at individual general practice level.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-6013-2