

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

NICE Quality Standards Consultation – Preventing excess winter deaths and morbidity

Closing date: Please send this electronically by 5pm on **4th November 2015** to QSconsultations@nice.org.uk

Organisation	Care and Repair England
Title (e.g. Dr, Mr, Ms, Prof)	Ms
Name	Jane Minter
Job title or role	Head of programmes
Address and post code	
Telephone number	01159506500
Email address	Janeminter@careandrepair-england.org.uk
Please note: comments submitted on the draft quality standard are published on the NICE website.	
Would your organisation like to express an interest in formally supporting this quality standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
For information about supporting quality standards please visit http://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/Developing-NICE-quality-standards	

The Institute is unable to accept

- Comments received after the consultation deadline
- Comments submitted not on this proforma
- More than one response per stakeholder organisation
- Confidential information or other material that you would not wish to be made public
- Personal medical information about yourself or another person from which your or the person's identity could be ascertained

The personal data submitted on this form will be used by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for the purpose specified. The information will not be passed to any other third party and will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Please provide comments on the draft quality standard on the form below, putting each new comment in a new row. When feeding back, please note the section you are commenting on (for example, section 1 Introduction). If commenting on a specific quality statement, please indicate the particular sub-section (for example, statement, measure or audience descriptor). If your comment relates to the standard as a whole then please put 'general'.

In order to guide your comments, please refer to the general points for consideration on the [NICE website](#) as well as the specific questions detailed within the quality standard.

Please add rows as necessary.

Section	Comments
e.g. Section 1 Introduction or quality statement 1 (measure)	e.g. Comment about quality statement 1.
Quality Statement 1	We welcome all year round planning.
Quality Statement 1	We would like the statement to refer to local data on house condition such as local councils stock condition surveys and housing, health and safety rating system data
Quality Statement 1	Quality measures should include evidence of collaboration with health, social care <i>and housing</i> agencies
Quality Statement 1	Health, public health, social care <i>and housing commissioners and practitioners</i> need to collaborate on year round planning
Quality Statement 1	Work should identify at risk populations and specifically the over 75s (almost two thirds of those who die from excess winter deaths are in this age group)
Quality Statement 2	In relation to the agencies that the health and housing referral agency are expected to link to, we would add integrated care, housing and finance information and advice services (as required under the Care Act)
Quality Statement 3	We welcome the plan to assess, once a year, if people need support or are at risk of health problems due to a cold home. We would like the standard to consider how people, who do not have regular contact with health or care practitioners at their home, will be assessed. (It should be noted that only 6% of older people have any connection with social service, for example) Local areas would need to demonstrate that all those at risk were being assessed working with all local agencies that come into contact with people who might potentially be at risk living in cold homes. This should involve housing and third sector agencies as well as health and social care agencies.
Quality Statement 3	We would also like to see, in the annual assessment, consideration of not just heating and insulation issues but

Section	Comments
	also other areas that can lead to cold homes such as defective doors, rotten windows, damp and broken or inadequate heating systems. This means that those undertaking the annual assessment need to be trained to know what to look out for and/or are aware of local services that can help with such assessments such as local home improvement agencies.
Quality Statement 3	There will need to be a central data base of people at risk. It should be for local Health and Well Being boards to ensure that the data is collected and shared across the system. It is more likely that people will have a link with health systems (a local GP) than social care systems though this will not always be the case. The important issue is that there is lead agency and a process for collecting and accessing data.
Quality Statement 4	We welcome the proposal for an assessment for discharge from hospital that considers the risk of cold homes and would want this assessment to cover heating, insulation and the state of the home including issues such as defective doors, rotten windows, damp homes etc... We also suggest that, given there may be some remedial action to take and some delay in putting this into place that the assessment should begin at admission. There are some good examples where home improvement agencies and housing advice services are working closely with hospitals, and indeed GPs, to support home assessments and housing options advice which also links to the need to ensure that the home is well adapted for the person being discharged. Some practical examples of these developing partnerships are shown on our website at http://careandrepair-england.org.uk/home-from-hospital-initiatives/
Quality Statement 5	We also welcome the proposal that the discharge plan will also address whether a person's home is warm enough and would emphasise the points made in relation to Quality Statement 4 above that this should consider the state of the home in terms of repairs and improvements as well as heating systems and insulation.
Quality statements 1- 5 in general	One area for consideration is the need for training and support to ensure that the annual assessments are both robust and helpful and meet the need to reduce the impact of cold homes and excess winter deaths. Local collaboration will be needed to ensure that the process for undertaking assessments is fit for purpose.

What will happen to your comments

A summary of the consultation comments, prepared by the NICE quality standards team, and the full set of consultation comments will be shared with the Quality Standards Advisory Committee (QSAC). The QSAC will then meet to review the comments and the quality standard will be refined with input from the QSAC chair and members.

Please note that NICE does not respond to consultation comments submitted on NICE quality standards. Instead, following the publication of the quality standard, NICE will provide stakeholders who submitted comments with a link to the minutes of the meeting that will summarise the committee discussions and decisions.

The summary of consultation comments and full set of comments received from registered stakeholders will be published on the NICE website alongside the quality standard. Comments received from individuals and non-registered stakeholders will be considered by the QSAC but will not be published on the website.

NICE reserves the right to summarise and edit comments received during consultations, or not to publish them at all, where in the reasonable opinion of the Institute, the comments are voluminous, publication would be unlawful or publication would be otherwise inappropriate.

Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by the Institute are published in the interests of openness and transparency. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that the Institute has received, and are not endorsed by the Institute, its officers or advisory committees.