

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

NICE Quality Standards Consultation – Smoking cessation: supporting people to stop smoking

Closing date: 5pm – Wednesday 10 April 2013

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Please note: comments submitted on the draft quality standard are published on the NICE website.	
Would your organisation like to express an interest in endorsing this quality standard? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
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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.
General	<p>The Royal Pharmaceutical Society are pleased that pharmacists have been highlighted as healthcare professionals who can support patients to stop smoking. As experts in medicines, pharmacists offer advice on how to take medicines, adverse effects, possible interactions and cautions, to raise patients' awareness and increase their understanding of their therapy, which will encourage medicines adherence and empower self-care.</p> <p>Pharmacists also have a key role in public health promoting the benefits of stopping smoking and raising awareness of the health risks and dangers associated with smoking.</p> <p>An increasing number of pharmacists are qualifying as independent prescribers, and they play an important role in the prescribing of and advising on smoking cessation medication.</p> <p>As the professional body for pharmacists and pharmacy we have produced a quick reference to support our members in helping their patients stop smoking, published guidance about the sale of electronic cigarettes, and worked closely with the British Heart Foundation to support pharmacist in the promotion of national No Smoking Day and the distribution of Quit</p>

Section	Comments
	Kits in England.
Quality statement 1 and 2 (General)	<p>Community and hospital pharmacists, and their support staff have a valuable role to play in assisting patients stop smoking, including identification of patients who may want to stop smoking, offering brief interventions, and signposting to specialist services where appropriate. Pharmacists can also offer lifestyle advice help patients manage withdrawal symptoms and offer behavioural support to patients who relapse.</p> <p>Community pharmacies are conveniently located and are readily accessible due to longer opening hours, and there is no need for patients to make an appointment. Premises therefore offer informal settings which could encourage people who may be reluctant to visit their GP or stop smoking clinics to seek support and advice.</p>
Quality statement 4 (General)	<p>We would like to see pharmacists specifically mentioned in this section.</p> <p>Patients can obtain a range of NRT in pharmacies and receive additional advice about how to use these products effectively from trained healthcare support staff. Many community pharmacists supply NRT products via through NHS voucher schemes, and local PGDs.</p> <p>A number of community pharmacies have completed accredited training as a Level 2 Community Stop Smoking Advisor to supply varenicline via local NHS PGDs.</p>
Quality statement 5 and 6 (General)	<p>We would like to see pharmacist specifically mentioned in this section.</p> <p>Pharmacists are able to offer carbon monoxide testing to patients to help monitor health outcomes and reinforce the benefits of stopping smoking.</p>

Closing date: Please forward this electronically by 5pm on **Wednesday 10 April 2013** at the very latest to QSconsultations@nice.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE: The Institute 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.