

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the March edition of our Public Involvement update from the Public Involvement Programme at NICE. For more information about how we involve patients and the public in NICE's work please visit our [get involved](#) page on the NICE website. If you would like information on all of NICE's work, please subscribe to our [e-newsletter and alerts](#). NICE is also on Twitter – for news and updates please follow [@NICEComms](#). For messages specifically from the Public Involvement Programme [@AnnieEmeryPIP](#)

Healthwatch organisations and national patient, carer and voluntary organisations are welcome to get involved in the development of NICE guidance if you would like to. To do this for clinical, public health, social care guidance and quality standards, you will need to register as a stakeholder organisation for the specific topics of interest to you. [NICE stakeholder registration](#).

If you have any comments about the content of this update or ideas about what you'd like to see in the next edition, please contact sally.taylor@nice.org.uk

In this month's update:

1. News *(Click the header links)*

- **Tackling variation in the care of patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**
Improving access to specialist care and smoking cessation support are among actions that can help reduce variation in the care of patients with COPD, according to a new report.
- **New quality standard on psychosis and schizophrenia**
NICE's new quality standard on psychosis and schizophrenia sets out eight quality statements designed to improve the care of adults living with the disorders.
- **First bladder cancer guideline to reduce variations in care**
NICE's first guideline on bladder cancer aims to improve the diagnosis and management of the seventh most common cancer in the UK.
- **Focus care on the needs of the resident, says NICE**
NICE has published a new briefing to help local authorities and partner organisations ensure that older people in care homes receive the best possible care.
- **Latest draft QOF and CCG OIS indicators unveiled**
Ensuring patients with depression have access to psychological treatment through primary care, and encouraging commissioners and providers to improve the quality of obesity services in those with chronic conditions are among topics proposed in the latest set of draft QOF and CCG OIS indicators.
- **Draft guideline to improve asthma diagnosis**
Spirometry should be used as the first-line investigation for diagnosing asthma in children over 5 and adults, says NICE.
- **Use NICE quality standards to guide good quality social care, says CQC**
Social care services should use NICE guidance and quality standards to help identify and define good quality care, according to the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

2. Current consultations (*Click the header links*)

We are aware that sometimes our consultation deadlines mean that it isn't possible for Healthwatches to engage with their members as much as they might like. To try and help with this, NICE has a database of [milestone dates](#) (see right hand column under 'Further Information' on the webpage) for its clinical guideline programme. This means that you can see when consultations are scheduled in advance of the consultation starting. You can also see all the topics you might be interested in [registering as a stakeholder](#) for.

Guidelines

- **Antimicrobial Stewardship: guideline consultation**
18 February 2015 – 17 March 2015
- **Asthma - diagnosis and monitoring: guideline consultation**
28 January 2015 – 11 March 2015
- **Cataracts: scope consultation**
25 February 2015 – 25 March 2015
- **Melanoma: guideline consultation**
30 January 2015 – 13 March 2015
- **Venous Thromboembolism - Reducing the risk: addendum consultation**
24 February 2015 – 24 March 2015

Quality Standards

- **Atrial fibrillation: quality standard consultation**
13 February 2015 – 13 March 2015
- **Smoking - harm reduction: quality standard consultation**
5 February 2015 – 5 March 2015
- **Dyspepsia: quality standard consultation**
27 February 2015 – 27 March 2015

Interventional Procedures

- **Varicose Veins: cyanoacrylate embolisation of refluxing great saphenous veins for varicose veins: consultation**
20 February 2015 – 19 March 2015
- **Liver Transplants: Living-donor liver transplantation: consultation**
20 February 2015 – 19 March 2015
- **Depression and Anxiety: Transcutaneous cranial electrical stimulation for insomnia, depression or anxiety: consultation**
20 February 2015 – 19 March 2015

3. Opportunities to get involved (*click the header links*)

NICE committees and working groups are made up of health, social care and other professionals and practitioners, patients, service users, carers and members of the public and technical experts. Current vacancies are listed on [this page](#), all vacancies close at 5pm on the day of the deadline unless otherwise stated. This is a list of vacancies for patients, service users, carers and lay people:

Current recruitments:

- **Indicators advisory committee**
NICE Indicators Programme closes **9am, 9 March 2015**
- **Pneumonia quality standards advisory committee**
Quality standards closes **5pm, 19 March 2015**
- **Cataract guideline committee**
Clinical Guidelines closes **5pm, 25 March 2015**
- **Chest pain of recent onset clinical guideline updates standing committee**
Clinical Guideline closes, **5pm, 26 March 2015**
- **Depression guideline development group**
Clinical Guideline closes, **5pm, 30 March 2015**

Upcoming recruitments:

Check [the recruitment page](#) for upcoming recruitments and further details on start dates. The following topics will open for recruitment over the coming months:

- **Rheumatoid arthritis**
Clinical Guideline, Opens 2nd week of **March 2015**

New stakeholder topics:

- **Management and Organisational Approaches to Safe Staffing**

4. Newly Published Guidance (click the links)

For the full list of last month's guidance, please see [here](#).

Ref	Title	Type
QS80	Psychosis and schizophrenia in adults	Quality Standards
NG2	Bladder cancer: diagnosis and management of bladder cancer	Guideline
NG3	Diabetes in pregnancy: management of diabetes and its complications from preconception to the postnatal period	Guideline
CG61	Irritable bowel syndrome in adults: diagnosis and management of irritable bowel syndrome in primary care	Clinical Guideline
NG4	Safe midwifery staffing for maternity settings	Guideline
QS81	Inflammatory bowel disease	Quality Standards

5. Noticeboard – Sharing Information, Events and Updates in Patient and Public Involvement

To request to feature on the Noticeboard, please contact sally.taylor@nice.org.uk

We are pleased to announce the launch of the bursary scheme for the

2015 NICE Annual Conference which is taking place in

Liverpool on 13th and 14th October 2015.

Apply for a chance to receive a 2-day delegate pass worth £340

Closing date: Monday 30 March 2015, 5pm.

The bursary scheme is open to national patient, carer, service user and voluntary organisations, local and regional Healthwatches, and can be applied for by completing and returning the application form. T&Cs apply.

Bursary packages are limited and interest is expected to be high so don't delay in returning your application. Details of the bursary scheme and the application form are available on the [NICE website bursary page](#).

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Become a Patient Expert *In Medicines Research and Development*

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Apply here for the Autumn 2015 Course **before 31 March 2015:**
<http://www.patientsacademy.eu/index.php/en/edu/guide>

Disclaimer: Please note this course is run by the European Patients Academy on Therapeutic Innovation (EUPATI) and is not a NICE initiative

‘Please note, due to the forthcoming election there will be no newsletter during April and May 2015’