



***National Institute for  
Health and Clinical Excellence***

# **Summary of recommendations for the NICE menu and recommendations for the retirement of indicators**

**Summary of recommendations for the NICE menu (Aug-12)**

## **Summary tables for NICE menu**

This report provides a summary of the June 2012 QOF Advisory Committee meeting recommendations in relation to the following:

1. Piloted indicators
2. Review of existing QOF indicators
3. Retirement of existing QOF indicators (including potential replacements)
4. Other amendments to QOF indicators
5. Indicators on the NICE menu not negotiated into QOF

**Table 1 Committee recommendations for piloted indicators for the NICE menu**

Pilot	QOF area	NICE Menu ID	Revised indicator wording for NICE Menu
4	Cancer	NM45	The percentage of patients with cancer diagnosed within the preceding 15 months who have a review recorded as occurring within 3 months of the practice receiving confirmation of the diagnosis
4	COPD	NM46	The percentage of patients with COPD and Medical Research Council (MRC) Dyspnoea Scale $\geq 3$ at any time in the preceding 15 months, with a record of oxygen saturation value within the preceding 15 months
4	COPD	NM47	The percentage of patients with COPD and Medical Research Council (MRC) Dyspnoea Scale $\geq 3$ at any time in the preceding 15 months, with a subsequent record of an offer of referral to a pulmonary rehabilitation programme
4	Heart Failure	NM48	The percentage of patients with heart failure diagnosed within the preceding 15 months with a record of an offer of referral for an exercise based rehabilitation programme
5	Depression	NM49	The percentage of patients with a new diagnosis of depression in the preceding 1 April to 31 March who have had a bio-psychosocial assessment by the point of diagnosis
5	Depression	NM50	The percentage of patients with a new diagnosis of depression in the preceding 1 April to 31 March who have been reviewed within 10-35 days of the date of diagnosis
4	Diabetes	NM51	The percentage of male patients with diabetes with a record of being asked about erectile dysfunction in the preceding 15 months
4	Diabetes	NM52	The percentage of male patients with diabetes who have a record of erectile dysfunction with a record of advice and assessment of contributory factors and treatment options in the preceding 15 months
5	Hypertension*	NM53	The percentage of patients under 80 years old with hypertension in whom the last recorded blood pressure (measured in the preceding 9 months) is 140/90 or less
5	Hypertension**	NM54	The percentage of patients aged 80 years and over with hypertension in whom the last recorded blood pressure (measured in the preceding 9 months) is 150/90 or less
5	Rheumatoid arthritis	NM55	The practice can produce a register of all patients aged 16 years and over with rheumatoid arthritis

Pilot	QOF area	NICE Menu ID	Revised indicator wording for NICE Menu
5	Rheumatoid arthritis	NM56	The percentage of patients with rheumatoid arthritis aged 30-84 years who have had a cardiovascular risk assessment using a CVD risk assessment tool adjusted for RA in the preceding 15 months
5	Rheumatoid arthritis	NM57	The percentage of patients aged 50-90 years with rheumatoid arthritis who have had an assessment of fracture risk using a risk assessment tool adjusted for RA in the preceding 27 months
5	Rheumatoid arthritis	NM58	The percentage of patients with rheumatoid arthritis who have had a face to face annual review in the preceding 15 months

\* The distribution of practice achievement at final data upload was 50 – 80%. Based on this payment thresholds of 45-80% are suggested

\*\* The distribution of practice achievement at final data upload was 70 – 90%. Based on this payment thresholds of thresholds of 60-90% are suggested

**Table 2 Committee recommendations for review of existing QOF indicators (including changes to indicator wording and/or guidance)**

QOF area	Indicator wording presented to AC	Rationale	NICE Menu ID	Revised indicator wording
Diabetes	DM13 The percentage of patients with diabetes who have a record of micro-albuminuria testing in the preceding 15 months (exception reporting for proteinuria)	<p>Recommendation to remove 'exception reporting for proteinuria' from indicator wording and amend to albumin:creatinine ratio (ACR) testing as NICE guideline 87 recommends ACR testing irrespective of nephropathy.</p> <p>NICE conducted a review of this indicator following queries from practitioners who had carried out the care process but whose patients were not counted in the numerator and denominator.</p>	NM59	The percentage of patients with diabetes who have a record of an albumin:creatinine ratio (ACR) test in the preceding 15 months

QOF area	Indicator wording presented to AC	Rationale	NICE Menu ID	Revised indicator wording
Stroke	Stroke 8: The percentage of patients with stroke or TIA whose last measured total cholesterol (measured in the preceding 15 months) is 5mmol/l or less	The committee was advised there is high quality evidence for a protective effect of statins for ischaemic stroke and an increased risk of haemorrhagic stroke and that there is low quality evidence for an increased risk of stroke relative to placebo, in people whose index stroke is haemorrhagic. In light of the findings of the NICE review the AC recommended rewording Stroke 8 and the previous decision to retire stroke 7 on cholesterol testing to be withdrawn	NM60	The percentage of patients with a stroke shown to be non-haemorrhagic, or a history of TIA whose last measured total cholesterol (measured in the preceding 15 months) is 5mmol/l or less

**Table 3 Committee recommendations for retirement of existing QOF indicators**

QOF area	Indicator wording presented to AC	Committee Recommendations
Cancer	Cancer 3: The percentage of patients with cancer, diagnosed within the preceding 18 months, who have a patient review recorded as occurring within 6 months of the practice receiving confirmation of the diagnosis	Retire if indicator NM45 is negotiated into QOF
CHD	CHD10: The percentage of patients with coronary heart disease who are currently treated with a beta-blocker	Retire indicator. The AC agreed that the evidence of effectiveness for this recommendation was in patients who have had an acute myocardial infarction and that this is covered by the QOF indicator CHD14 which incentivises treatment with ACE inhibitor (or ARB if ACE intolerant), aspirin or an alternative anti-platelet therapy, beta-blocker and statin. The AC noted that beta-blockers may be beneficial for the symptomatic relief of angina but there was no strong evidence for the secondary prevention of CHD.
CKD	CKD2. The percentage of patients on the CKD register whose notes have a record of blood pressure in the preceding 15 months	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement
Depression	DEP01. The percentage of patients on the diabetes register and/or the CHD register for whom case finding for depression has been undertaken on 1 occasion during the preceding 15 months using two standard screening questions	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement.
Depression	DEP6: In those patients with a new diagnosis of depression, recorded between the preceding 1 April to 31 March, the percentage of patients who have had an assessment of severity at the time of diagnosis using an assessment tool validated for use in primary care	Retire if indicator NM49 is negotiated into QOF. Also previously recommended for retirement

QOF area	Indicator wording presented to AC	Committee Recommendations
Depression	DEP7: In those patients with a new diagnosis of depression and assessment of severity recorded between the preceding 1 April to 31 March, the percentage of patients who have had a further assessment of severity 2 - 12 weeks (inclusive) after the initial recording of the assessment of severity. Both assessments should be completed using an assessment tool validated for use in primary care	Retire if indicator NM50 is negotiated into QOF. Also previously recommended for retirement
Diabetes	DM10: The percentage of patients with diabetes with a record of neuropathy testing in the preceding 15 months	Retire indicator as it overlaps with DM 29 on foot risk classification
Diabetes	DM02: The percentage of patients with diabetes whose notes record BMI in the preceding 15 months	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement.
Diabetes	DM22: The percentage of patients with diabetes who have a record of estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) or serum creatinine testing in the preceding 15 months	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement.
Epilepsy	EPILEPSY06: The percentage of patients aged 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy who have a record of seizure frequency in the preceding 15 months	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement.
Hypertension	BP04: The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom there is a record of the blood pressure in the preceding nine months	Retire indicator, previously recommended for retirement.
Hypertension	BP5: The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom the last blood pressure (measured in the preceding 9 months) is 150/90 or less	Retire indicator if NM53 and NM54 are negotiated into QOF.
Records	Records 11: The blood pressure of patients aged 45 years and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 65% of patients	Retire indicator if NM61 is negotiated into QOF
Records	Records 17: The blood pressure of patients aged 45 years and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 80% of patients	Retire indicator if NM61 is negotiated into QOF



**Table 4 Other amendments to QOF Indicators**

QOF area	Indicator	Amendment / Rationale	NICE Menu ID	Revised indicator wording
Records	<p>Records 11: The blood pressure of patients aged 45 years and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 65% of patients</p> <p>Records 17: The blood pressure of patients aged 45 years and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 80% of patients</p>	<p>Replace with a single fraction indicator. The indicators are only pivots because in the original QOF it was not possible to extract data on achievement through QMAS.</p>	NM61	<p>The percentage of patients aged 40 years and over with a blood pressure measurement recorded in the preceding 5 years</p>
Diabetes	<p>DM15: The percentage of patients with diabetes with a diagnosis of proteinuria or micro-albuminuria who are treated with ACE inhibitors (or A2 antagonists)</p>	<p>The wording has been added to improve the clarity of the indicator wording: it does not impact the clinical intent or the underlying technical specifications.</p>	N/A	<p>The percentage of patients with diabetes with a diagnosis of diabetic nephropathy (clinical proteinuria) or micro-albuminuria who are treated with ACE inhibitors (or A2 antagonists).</p>

**Table 5 Indicators on the NICE menu not negotiated into QOF**

QOF area	NICE Menu ID	Indicator
Hypertension	NM26	In those patients with a new diagnosis of hypertension aged 30-74 years, recorded between the preceding 1 April to 31 March (excluding those with pre-existing CHD, diabetes, stroke and/or TIA), who have a recorded CVD risk assessment score (using an agreed risk assessment tool) of >20% in the preceding 15 months: the percentage who are currently treated with statins (unless there is a contraindication)
Hypertension	NM36	The percentage of patients with hypertension aged 16 to 74 years in whom there is an annual assessment of physical activity, using GPPAQ, in the preceding 15 months
Hypertension	NM37	The percentage of patients with hypertension aged 16 to 74 years who score 'less than active' on GPPAQ in the preceding 15 months, who also have a record of a brief intervention in the preceding 15 months
Records	NM43	The blood pressure of patients aged 40 and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 65% of patients
Records	NM44	The blood pressure of patients aged 40 and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 80% of patients
Diabetes	NM12	The percentage of patients with diabetes with a record of testing of foot sensation using a 10 g monofilament or vibration (using biothesiometer or calibrated tuning fork), within the preceding 15 months
Diabetes	NM27	The percentage of patients newly diagnosed with diabetes in the preceding 1 April to 31 March who have a record of being referred to a structured education programme within 9 months of entry on to the diabetes register
Diabetes	NM28	The percentage of patients with diabetes who have a record of a dietary review by a suitably competent professional in the preceding 15 months