












## Recommended QOF indicators for 2014/2015

Clinical area	Indicator	Rationale	Issues for GPs
<b>Hypertension</b> 	Use ABPM to confirm new diagnoses of hypertension	As recommended in NICE guidelines	Requires investment in new devices
<b>PAD/CHD/Stroke/TIA</b> 	Blood pressure target of 140/90mmHg in all patients aged 79 years or younger	Harmonises targets with other hypertension indicators	Likely to increase exception reporting
<b>Dementia</b> 	Confirmation of dementia diagnosis by specialist memory assessment service	As recommended in NICE guidelines	Patchy availability of memory services
	Record contact details for dementia carers	Considered in the interest of patients	The definition applied for a carer
<b>Diabetes</b> 	Preconception advice for women with diabetes	Reducing risk of complications during pregnancy	Repeated advice could be unnecessary and impersonal

## Future QOF indicators in the pipeline

Public health/clinical area	Indicator	Rationale and status	Issues for GPs
<b>Diabetes</b> 	Tightly linked indicators rewarding GPs for intensifying treatment in patients with cholesterol levels above 4mmol/l	To promote personalised care and move away from one-size-fits-all 'tick-box' measure. But there are problems extracting data from GP records, so may be piloted in the coming year	Could penalise GPs with more complex patients in deprived areas. Lower cholesterol target could lead to overmedication
<b>Alcohol</b> 	Brief interventions for harmful alcohol use in patients with hypertension	To reduce harmful alcohol use in registered population. Recommended for piloting	Potential conflicts over consent to record problem drinking where patients need medical records for mortgage/insurance applications
<b>Hypertension</b> 	Assessment of patients for target organ damage at diagnosis	Allows more accurate cardiovascular risk assessment. Recommended for piloting	Unlikely to cause major issues; should be routine practice
<b>Learning disabilities</b> 	Register of all patients with learning disabilities aged four years or older	Better coordination of NHS and social care. Recommended for piloting	Unlikely to cause major issues
<b>Mental health</b> 	Preconception advice for women with serious mental illness	To minimise risks of harm to the fetus from antipsychotic medications. Still in development	Difficult to achieve points as complex patients often fail to attend appointments
<b>COPD</b> 	Self-management plans for COPD patients at risk of exacerbations	To enable earlier treatment of exacerbations and reduce unscheduled admissions. Still in development	More paperwork, benefits not clear
<b>Asthma</b> 	Written care plans for patients with asthma	To prevent and manage exacerbations. Still in development	More paperwork, benefits not clear