Dear Colleagues,

**Consultation is now open on the draft Infection Control quality standard**

We are pleased to announce that the draft Infection Control quality standard is now available on the NICE website for consultation. The consultation period starts today, **19th November**, and finishes at **5pm on 17th December**. We greatly value stakeholder contributions into the quality standard development process and have found consultation feedback extremely helpful in our work on previous quality standards so would encourage you to comment.

The draft Infection Control  quality standard, along with the instructions and documents required to submit your comments, can be accessed by following this link:

[Infection control: quality standard consultation](https://web.nhs.net/OWA/redir.aspx?C=MVPl33X6vUuGxK6fvJ7Ka6rECzoZwNBIuLgCdl4jZt9U7CmYG7StYvl6yq4MzPnWkshISUGq5Bk.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fguidance.nice.org.uk%2fQSD%2f59%2fQSConsultation)

We would be grateful if you could ensure all responses are submitted electronically using the **comments proforma** (*ensuring all relevant fields are completed, including your organisation’s full name*). Responses must be submitted to [QSconsultations@nice.org.uk](https://web.nhs.net/OWA/redir.aspx?C=MVPl33X6vUuGxK6fvJ7Ka6rECzoZwNBIuLgCdl4jZt9U7CmYG7StYvl6yq4MzPnWkshISUGq5Bk.&URL=mailto%3aQSconsultations%40nice.org.uk) **by 5pm on 17th December.**

Following consultation, 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 discussions on the stakeholder comments and the associated decisions will then be summarised in the QSAC meeting minutes. When the quality standard publishes all stakeholders that submitted comments will be sent a link to the minutes on the NICE website so that they may see how their comments were considered by the committee in the finalisation of the quality standard.

**Please note that if you have not registered as a stakeholder to this topic your comments cannot be considered.** Further details about how your organisation can register can be found by clicking [here](https://web.nhs.net/OWA/redir.aspx?C=MVPl33X6vUuGxK6fvJ7Ka6rECzoZwNBIuLgCdl4jZt9U7CmYG7StYvl6yq4MzPnWkshISUGq5Bk.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nice.org.uk%2fourguidance%2fniceguidancebytype%2fclinicalguidelines%2fshregistration%2fshregistration.jsp).

**Endorsement partners**

As you may be aware, NICE is proud to jointly badge quality standards in order to help to achieve maximum dissemination among relevant audiences. If you would like your organisation to endorse the Infection Control quality standard please email [QualityStandards@nice.org.uk](https://web.nhs.net/OWA/redir.aspx?C=MVPl33X6vUuGxK6fvJ7Ka6rECzoZwNBIuLgCdl4jZt9U7CmYG7StYvl6yq4MzPnWkshISUGq5Bk.&URL=mailto%3aQualityStandards%40nice.org.uk) to express an interest or indicate your interest on the comments proforma.

Those who endorse quality standards must be:

         National patient, carer, service user, voluntary, charity and non-governmental organisations that are run by, or directly reflect the perspectives of patients, service users, carers or client groups, and represent the interests of people whose care is covered by the quality standard in England.

         National organisations that represent the health or social care professionals who provide the services described in the quality standard in England.

         Statutory organisations (an organisation set up by government for a specific purpose) including Ofsted, Care Quality Commission (CQC), and Local Government Improvement and Development.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,

**The Quality Standards Team**