

**National Institute for Health and Care Excellence**

**NICE Quality Standards Consultation – Home care**

**Closing date:** Please send this electronically by 5pm on **Monday 22 February 2016** to [Qsconsultations@nice.org.uk](mailto:Qsconsultations@nice.org.uk)

Organisation	Optical Confederation and Local Optical Committee Support Unit
Title (e.g. Dr, Mr, Ms, Prof)	Miss
Name	Sophie Pavlovic
Job title or role	Public Affairs Officer
Address and post code	2 Woodbridge Street, London EC1R 0DG
Telephone number	020 7549 2066
Email address	sophiepavlovic@opticalconfederation.org.uk
<b>Please note:</b> comments submitted on the draft quality standard are published on the NICE website.	
Would your organisation like to express an interest in formally supporting this quality standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
For information about supporting quality standards please visit <a href="http://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/Developing-NICE-quality-standards">http://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/Developing-NICE-quality-standards</a>	

**The Institute is unable to accept**

- Comments received after the consultation deadline
- Comments submitted not on this proforma
- More than one response per stakeholder organisation
- Confidential information or other material that you would not wish to be made public
- Personal medical information about yourself or another person from which your or the person's identity could be ascertained

The personal data submitted on this form will be used by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for the purpose specified. The information will not be passed to any other third party and will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

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	The Optical Confederation welcomes this quality standard. We fully support the aim to ensure that those in need of home care receive services that help to enhance their quality of life and, where possible, delay and reduce their need for care and support.
Question 1 - Does this draft quality standard accurately reflect the key areas for quality improvement?	<p>We welcome the recognition throughout the document, under “Equality and diversity considerations”, that people with communication difficulties or sensory loss should be offered appropriate support to enable them to participate in determining their care priorities and developing their care plan.</p> <p>However, it would be helpful if the Standard (or supporting guidance) could go further and draw attention to the importance of ensuring that regular sight testing is a core component of all home care plans. Good eye care should be a part of everyone’s regular health routine and is particularly important in older age when eye health can be neglected because other health conditions are prioritised. Good sight can make an enormous difference to a person’s sense of wellbeing and independence; as examples, regular eye care ensuring a person has good sight has been shown to help reduce the risk of falls, while it is particularly important that elderly people at greater risk of dementia attend regular eye examinations as symptoms of dementia can mask symptoms of sight loss. Regular sight tests can also lead to the detection of eye diseases, such as glaucoma, allowing early intervention and treatment which can reduce the risk of avoidable sight loss.</p>

<b>Section</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	<p>For these reasons, people who are not able to attend an optical practice to access eye care are entitled to domiciliary eye care in their own home, funded by the NHS. Home care workers need to be trained to recognise and understand the needs of people with sight loss and also those with sight loss and co-morbidities, such as dementia and sight loss. Home care workers also need to be aware of domiciliary sight care services and how to access them, and that everyone has the right to their own choice of eye care provider (whether they are in their own home or a residential care home).</p>

Section	Comments

**What will happen to your comments**

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 will then meet to review the comments and the quality standard will be refined with input from the QSAC chair and members.

Please note that NICE does not respond to consultation comments submitted on NICE quality standards. Instead, following the publication of the quality standard, NICE will provide stakeholders who submitted comments with a link to the minutes of the meeting that will summarise the committee discussions and decisions.

The summary of consultation comments and full set of comments received from registered stakeholders will be published on the NICE website alongside the quality standard. Comments received from individuals and non-registered stakeholders will be considered by the QSAC but will not be published on the website.

NICE 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.

Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by the Institute are published in the interests of openness and transparency. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that the Institute has received, and are not endorsed by the Institute, its officers or advisory committees.