



The national CQUIN scheme 2017-19

No.9: Preventing ill health by risky behaviours – alcohol and tobacco

What is it?

The preventing ill health by risky behaviours CQUIN focuses on identifying and influencing inpatients who are increasing or higher risk drinkers by providing brief advice; and to identify and influence inpatients who smoke to make a quit attempt. It applies to community and mental health trusts in 2017-18 and extends to acute trusts in 2018-19.

It is intended to complement and reinforce existing activity to deliver interventions to smokers and those who use alcohol at harmful and hazardous levels and helps ensure the implementation of guidance produced by National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), on reducing smoking in acute and mental health settings (PH48) and preventing alcohol use disorders (PH24).

Implemented well, it has the capacity to:

- reduce future hospital admissions, reduce wound infection, improve wound and bone healing and longer term risk of heart disease, stroke, cancer and premature death due to smoking cessation interventions
- reduce future hospital admissions and improve chronic disease management such as hypertension due to inpatient identification of risky drinking and advice

The estimated net savings are impressive at £13 per patient referred to stop smoking support and prescribed NRT (each year over four years), and £27 per patient receiving alcohol brief advice (each year over four years). The interventions are quick, achievable and proven to be effective.

NHS England's guidance makes clear that while the scheme is challenging they expect providers to be able to draw down the majority of the money put aside. **Each national indicator has a minimum weighting of 0.25%** (eg a large mental health

trust with a budget of c. £400 million would earn £100,000 for full delivery of any given indicator).

The scheme for 2017-19 is the first time that the NHS has published a scheme that runs over multiple years, providing greater certainty and stability on CQUIN goals and more time for health communities to implement the initiatives.

The scope of the CQUIN

The CQUIN incentivises screening and brief advice/referral for **unique adult in-patients**.

The CQUIN does not cover the following patient groups:

- all patients below 18 years of age
- all in-patients in maternity wards
- all A&E attendances that do not lead to inpatient admissions
- all repeat admissions during the duration of the CQUIN (ie FY 2017-18 and 2018-19) of patients who have already received the intervention

Existing resources

- [CQUIN indicator specification](#) – sets out the detail of actions expected, the rationale for doing them, and how they will be measured.
- [Supplementary Guidance](#) – provides further context, advice on implementation, and current position on data collection specifically for the prevention CQUIN.
- [The NHS CQUIN pages](#) provide a more general overview of the 2017-19 CQUIN scheme.
- the Alcohol Learning Centre includes [e-learning modules](#) for delivery of alcohol screening and brief advice in hospital settings. Further training and support materials are available on the [‘Have a Word’ page](#).
- the [National Centre for Smoking Cessation and Training](#) includes e-learning modules for delivery of [very brief advice](#) and a suite of resources focused on supporting cessation within secondary care, mental health and pregnancy services.
- Self-assessment audit tools for measuring compliance with NICE PH48 guidance (Smoking Cessation in acute, mental health and maternity services) support readiness and implementation of the CQUIN.

For more information and resources, search for PHE’s ‘[campaign resource centre](#)’ or email: cleartobaccoteam@phe.gov.uk