

Implementation tools

# Commissioning Guides



National Institute for  
Health and Clinical Excellence

## Commissioning alcohol services using NICE guidance

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# Objectives

- Tell you more about NICE guides for commissioners and how they are developed
- Explain the key features of the alcohol commissioning guide, and how this can help you commission evidence-based alcohol services
- Inspire you to use the commissioning guide in practice!

# Overview of NICE

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health.



# What is NICE guidance?

We produce guidance in three areas of health:

- **Health technologies** – guidance on the use of new and existing medicines, treatments, procedures and medical technologies and diagnostics within the NHS.
- **Public health** – guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention of ill health for those working in the NHS, local authorities and the wider public and voluntary sector.
- **Clinical practice** – guidance on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS.

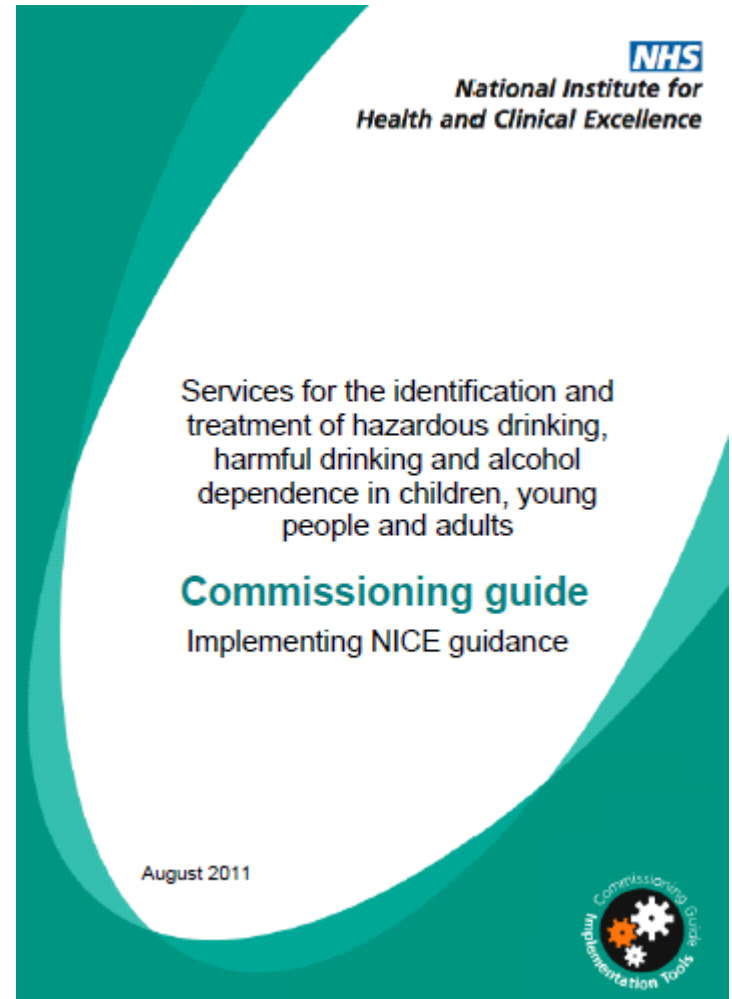
**Plus new NICE quality standards:** concise statements that act as markers of high-quality, cost-effective patient care for different diseases and conditions.

# Are you **aware** of it? Have you **used** it?

- **NICE guidance**
  - **CG115 – alcohol dependence** (February 2011)
  - **CG100 – alcohol-related physical complications** (June 2010)
  - **PH24 – preventing harmful drinking** (June 2010)
- **Quality standard** on alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use? (August 2011)
- **NICE commissioning guide** on alcohol services? (August 2011)

# NICE guides for commissioners

- **Commissioning guide** provides or signposts information on key clinical and service-related issues for commissioners to consider – underpinned by the relevant guidance or quality standard
- Contains a **commissioning and benchmarking tool** – a resource to help estimate and inform the level of service needed locally, as well as the cost of local commissioning decisions.



# Google: “NICE alcohol commissioning”

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## Commissioning guides - supporting clinical service redesign

NICE commissioning guides are topic-specific, web-based resources.

Each commissioning guide comprises a series of text-based web pages that signpost and provide topic-specific information on key clinical and service-related issues to consider during the commissioning process. Each guide contains a **commissioning and benchmarking tool**, which is a resource that can be used to estimate and inform the level of service needed locally as well as the cost of local commissioning decisions.

[More information about the commissioning guides](#)

[More information about how to join the Commissioner Reference Panel and how to contribute to the development of the Commissioning guides and other NICE work streams](#)

### Cardiovascular

- [Anticoagulation therapy service](#)
- [Cardiac rehabilitation: in development](#)
- [Cardiac rehabilitation service](#)
- [Chronic heart failure: in development](#)
- [Diagnosis and initial management of acute stroke](#)
- [Heart failure service](#)
- [TIA service](#)

# Why alcohol?

Annual process of topic selection

Informed by commissioners and steering group

Increasingly guided by Quality Standards programme

## Variation

- Differing local investment in drug and alcohol services
- Only 1 in 10 receive specialist treatment; local variation
- Under-identification by health and social care professionals

## Cost to NHS

- Costs NHS £6m per 100,000 population
- Small proportion of NHS spend is on treatment (~ 4-10%)

## Public health need

- Increasing alcohol-related admissions
- Increasing alcohol-related liver disease
- Impact on crime, community, family, economy



# Developing the guide

## People

- Topic advisory group
  - Clinical experts
  - Reps from the groups who developed the NICE guidance
  - Department of Health advisors
  - NTA representatives
  - PCT & GP commissioners
- Service visits
- Networking / snowballing

## Evidence

- **NICE quality standard**
- **NICE clinical & public health guidance**
- DH & NTA: Models of care for alcohol misusers (MoCAM)
- DH: Signs for improvement
- DH: Local routes (treatment pathways)
- NTA: Commissioning for recovery etc

# Just some of the commissioning issues identified by the TAG....

“Pathways cut across universal and specialist settings”

“Lack of staff competences and confidence to deliver IBA”

“Need trained, alcohol-specific workforce to deliver psychological interventions”

“IBA will increase number of dependent drinkers identified”

“Lack of capacity in specialist services”

“Low uptake of relapse prevention medication (e.g. Acomprosate) which is shown to be effective”

“Need to focus more on recovery”

“Need to commission more aftercare”

“Shortage of inpatient beds”

“Need to prevent inappropriate inpatient detox”

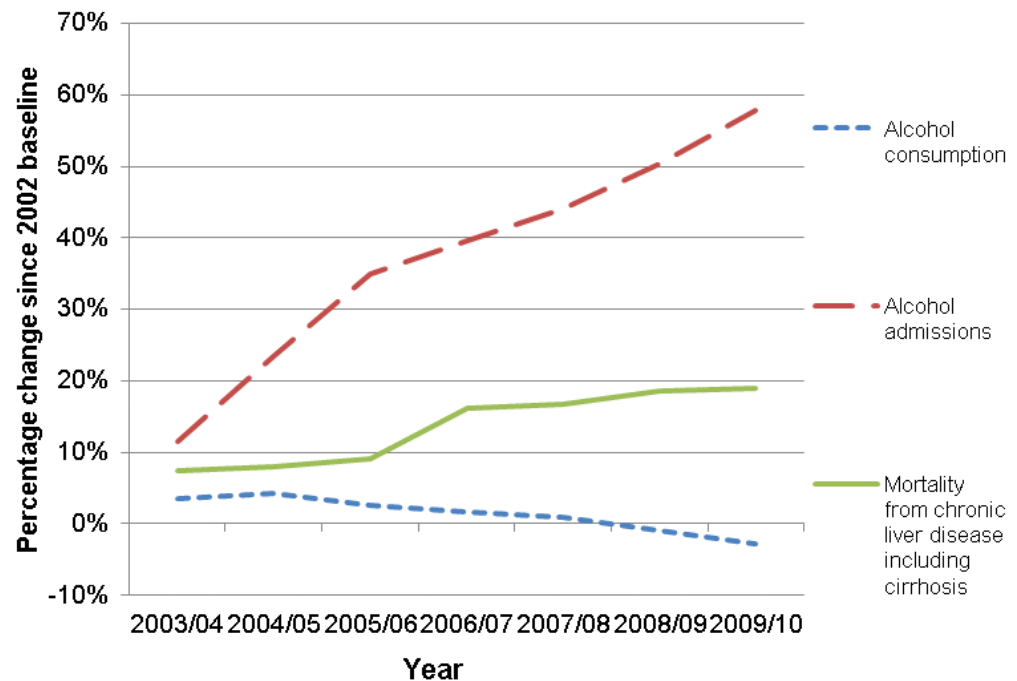
# Key features of the guide

- **Business case and outcomes**
- **Service components:**
  - Screening and brief interventions
  - Specialist alcohol services
  - Services for children and young people
- **Commissioning across the whole pathway**
  - Early identification → severe dependence & complex needs
  - Children, young people and adults
- **Case studies including CQUIN & QIPP examples**
- **Population benchmark**
- **Commissioning and benchmarking tool**

# Business case and outcomes

“NICE public health guidance 24 on *preventing harmful drinking* recommends that chief executives of NHS and local authorities prioritise the prevention of alcohol-use disorders as an invest-to-save measure.”

Results based  
accountability / turning  
the curve



# Screening and brief interventions

NICE quality statement 2:

“Health and social care staff **opportunistically** carry out screening and brief interventions for hazardous and harmful drinking as an **integral part of practice.**”

# Integrated community-based specialist alcohol services

**Table 4 Evidence-based interventions and packages of care for adults delivered in specialist alcohol services**

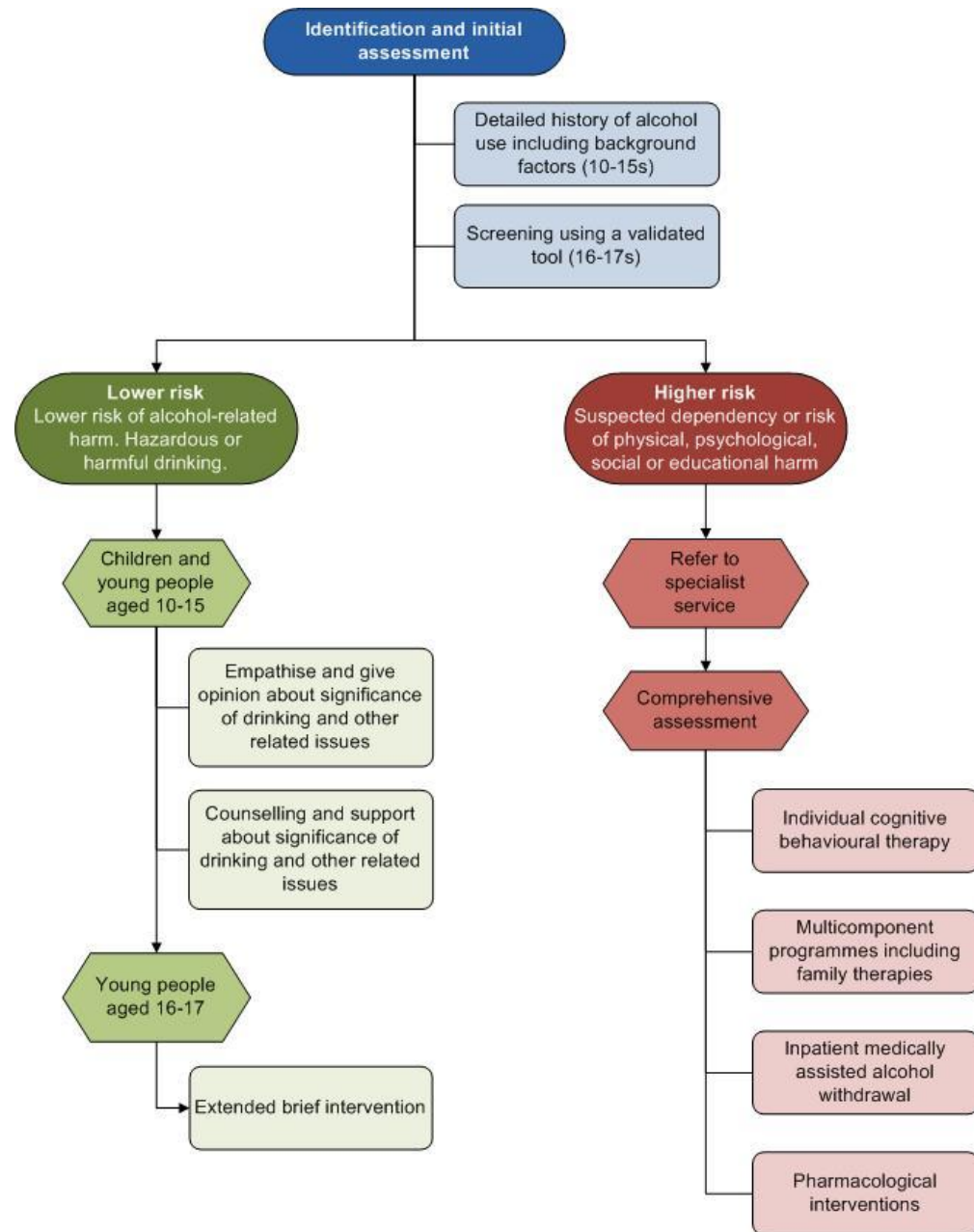
- Ticks (✓) indicate treatments for this group
- Question marks (?) indicate treatments that may occasionally be considered for people in this group.
- N/A is used when the intervention is not applicable for this group

Intervention	Harmful drinking and mild dependence	Moderate dependence	Severe dependence	Moderate and severe dependence plus complex needs
	AUDIT 16+ SADQ <16 Units/day <15	AUDIT 20+ SADQ 16–30 Units/day >15	AUDIT 20+ SADQ >30 Units/day >30	AUDIT 20+ SADQ >15 Units/day >15
Initial assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
Comprehensive assessment	?	✓	✓	✓
Psychological interventions	✓	✓	✓	✓
Care coordination	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community-based medically assisted withdrawal	?	✓	?	?
Inpatient or residential medically assisted withdrawal	n/a	?	✓	✓
Relapse prevention medication	?	✓	✓	✓
Aftercare	?	✓	✓	✓
Case management	n/a	?	✓	✓
Residential rehabilitation	n/a	n/a	?	?
Preventing Wernicke's encephalopathy	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mutual aid, peer support and re-integration support	✓	✓	✓	✓
Supporting families and carers	✓	✓	✓	✓

Package of care

# Services for children, young people and adults

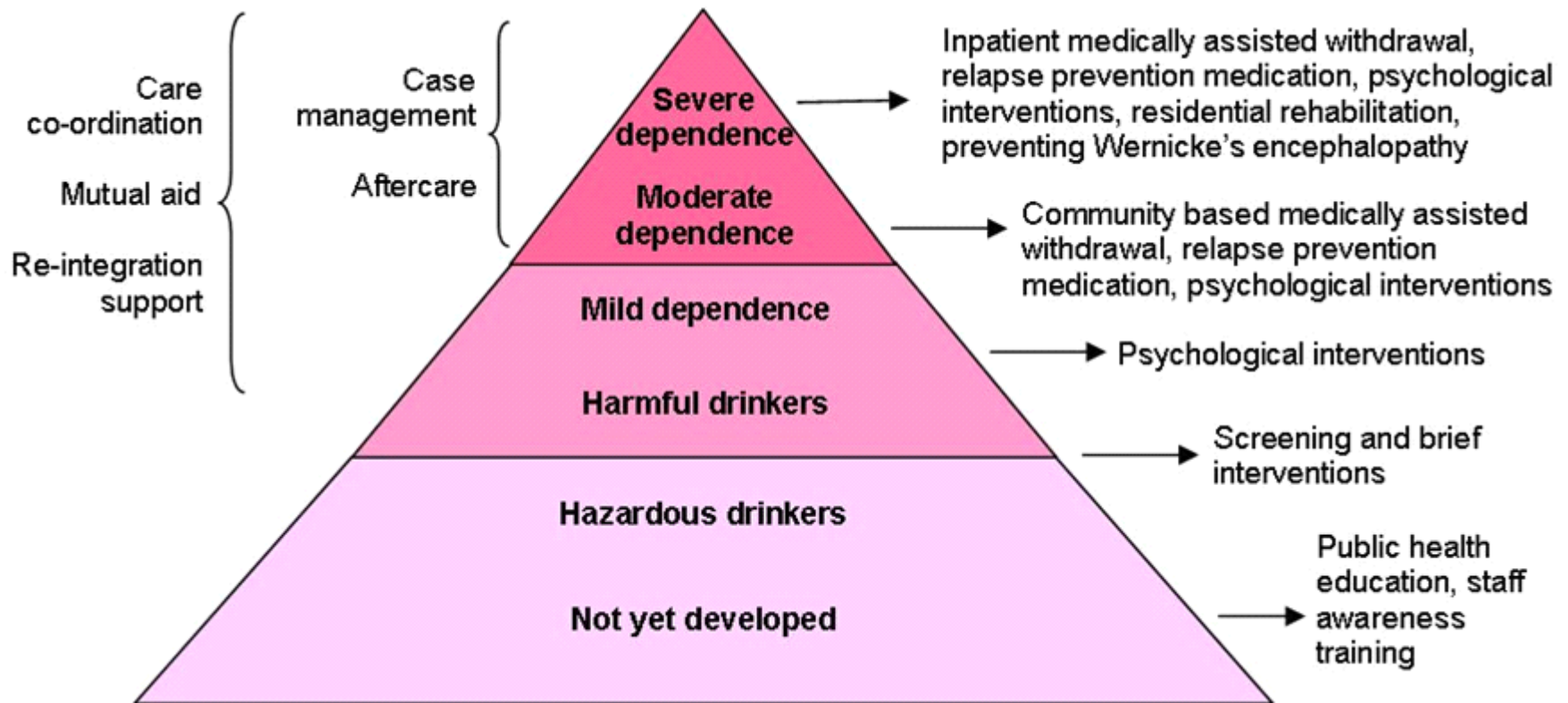
“Children's and adult's commissioners may wish to work in partnership to commission specialist services for children, young people and young adults **up to the age of 25 or 30 years**, because the pattern and culture of drinking and the social circumstances of this group are often different those of older adults”.





# Whole-system commissioning

“Recommendation 5 of the NICE public health guidance 24 on *preventing harmful drinking* recommends that a service should be properly resourced to support the stepped care approach recommended in *Models of Care for Alcohol Misusers....* Therefore commissioners should commission a full range of recovery-focussed services recommended by NICE....”







## Optimum service capacity

“Commissioners should ensure at least **one in seven** dependent drinkers can get treatment locally, in line with *Signs for Improvement*.”

[PH24: Preventing Harmful Drinking]

# Commissioning and benchmarking tool

Excel-based spreadsheets:

- calculate level of service needed locally
- based on benchmark and local population
- costs different service models
- shows potential cost savings



# And finally....

- **Workshop at 2pm :**
  - demonstration of NICE commissioning tools
  - consider how the NICE commissioning guide tools might help you put NICE guidance into practice locally

## Contact:

- [Jennifer.hopes@nice.org.uk](mailto:Jennifer.hopes@nice.org.uk) or 0161 219 3818

## Commissioning guide

<http://www.nice.org.uk/usingguidance/commissioningguides/bytopic.jsp>