General Standards for Neurological Care and Support

Scoping Report

March 2018

1. Title
General Standards for Neurological Care and Support

2. Healthcare Improvement Scotland standards and indicators
Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) is the national health and social care improvement organisation for Scotland and part of NHSScotland. It provides the expertise and resources to co-produce health and social care standards which are developed, informed and shaped by those who commission, deliver and use services.

The role of standards is to:

- provide a statement(s) of an expected level of service which demonstrates delivery of person-centred, safe and effective healthcare
- promote understanding, comparison and improvement of care, and
- support national consistency and/or local improvement.

3. Background
HIS developed and published *Clinical Standards for Neurological Health Services* in October 2009. The standards aimed to reduce variation and standardise neurological health services across Scotland.

In May 2016, the Scottish Government supported a commitment that the standards would be reviewed. This was in response to a report by Sue Ryder highlighting that the standards had not been universally implemented across NHSScotland and, as a result, they reported a variation in care for people with neurological conditions. In September 2016, HIS agreed to review the *Clinical Standards for Neurological Health Services* (2009).
In January 2017, HIS convened a multi-agency and multidisciplinary short-life working group (SLWG) to review the standards. The group included representatives from Scottish Government, the Care Inspectorate, the Neurological Programme Involvement Network, NHS boards, and the third sector, including representatives from the Health and Social Care Alliance, service providers and service users.

It was agreed by the SLWG that the next stage of the review would be to develop general standards for neurological care and support which will replace the existing generic standards.

4. **The scope of the standards**

4.1 **Population that will be covered**
- All adults in Scotland living with a neurological condition.

4.2 **Health and/or social care setting**
- The standards apply across all health and social care services and organisations that support adults living with a neurological condition.

4.3 **Areas for standards development**

a. Areas that will be covered:
- leadership and governance
- integration
- education, training and information
- person-centred care
- diagnosis
- referral and access

b. Areas that will not be covered:
- all condition-specific statements – these general standards will be developed to apply across all neurology services
- neurological paediatric services
- neurological health services indicators
- pilot visits – these are no longer offered as part of the standards and indicators methodology
- implementation support – this is for local determination
- quality monitoring of standards – this is for local determination

c. General standards for neurological care and support will be developed to support implementation of the *Health and Social Care Standards. My support, my life* (2017).
5. **Related development sources**

5.1 **Key documents, policies, standards, guidelines and work programmes relating to the standards**

a. Key sources (not exhaustive):

- Scottish Government. *Health and Social Care Standards: My support, my life.* 2017
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network. *Diagnosis and pharmacological management of Parkinson’s disease.* 2010
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network. *Diagnosis and management of epilepsy in adults.* 2016

b. Related HIS standards:

- NHS Quality Improvement Scotland. *Clinical standards for neurological health services.* 2009

6. **Timelines**

The general standards for neurological care and support project began in January 2018, with completion expected early 2019.

7. **Proposed development group specialists**

The proposed specialists to be represented during the next stage of the review are:

- Allied Health Professional
- Care Inspectorate
- Consultant neurologist
- Patient/public partners
- Scottish Government

- Service manager
- Specialist nurse
- Third sector representatives
- Social care representatives
8. **Contact us**

For any enquiries please contact:

- Donna O'Rourke, Programme Manager
- Wendy McDougall, Project Officer

Email: [hcis.standardsandindicators@nhs.net](mailto:hcis.standardsandindicators@nhs.net)

For more information about HIS, visit our website:

[www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org](http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org)
You can read and download this document from our website. We are happy to consider requests for other languages or formats. Please contact our Equality and Diversity Officer on 0141 225 6999 or email contactpublicinvolvement.his@nhs.net

www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org

**Edinburgh Office:** Gyle Square | 1 South Gyle Crescent | Edinburgh | EH12 9EB  
**Telephone:** 0131 623 4300

**Glasgow Office:** Delta House | 50 West Nile Street | Glasgow | G1 2NP  
**Telephone:** 0141 225 6999

The Healthcare Environment Inspectorate, Improvement Hub, Scottish Health Council, Scottish Health Technologies Group, Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) and Scottish Medicines Consortium are part of our organisation.