

FASD POLICY MATTERS



NICE QUALITY STANDARD



Change is coming in England about FASD.



The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is making a new **Quality Standard on FASD.**




A draft of this has been released for comment. It will change before it's finalised.



This Quality Standard identifies 5 key areas for health care improvement on FASD.



For the first time in England, local areas will have to show what they are doing to improve FASD services. 

SIGN



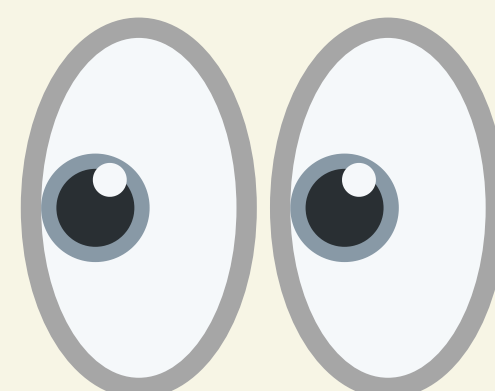
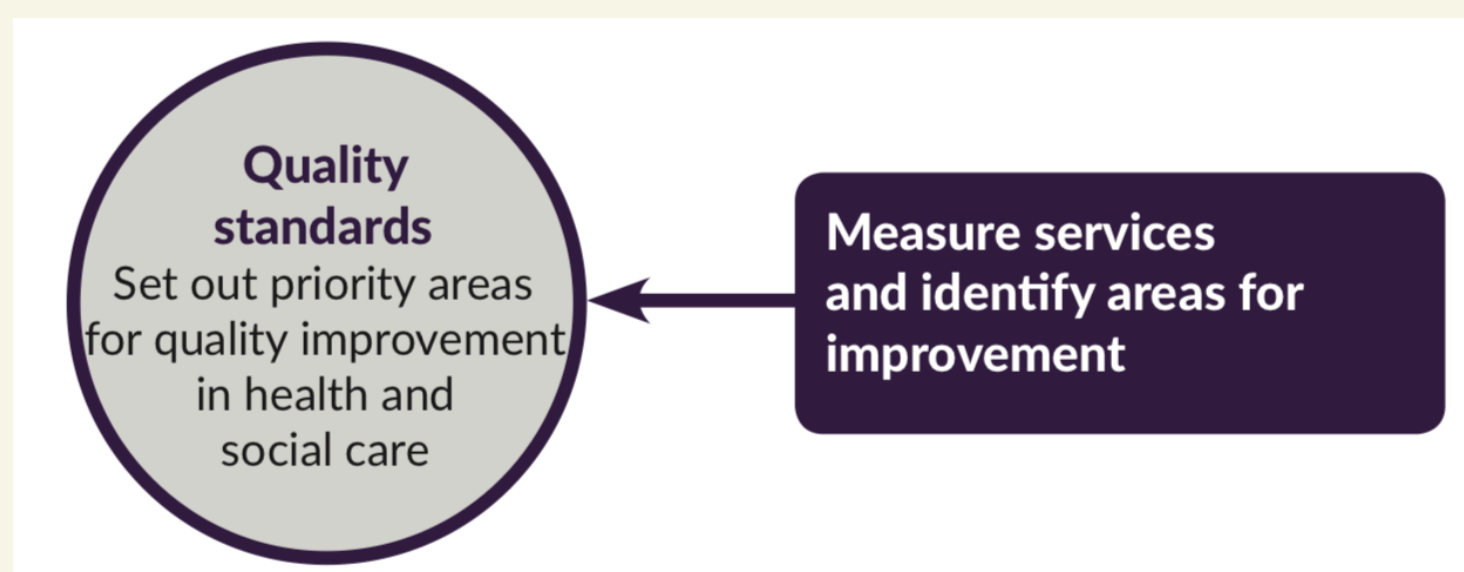
This draft NICE Quality Standard is based on Scottish SIGN guidance, which **focuses on FASD in children and young people.**



While the NICE Quality Standard sadly doesn't look at improving care for adults, it is only the first step.



The changes it calls for in FASD services could take years. But this Quality Standard means **FASD can no longer be ignored by those delivering health and social care in England.**



Areas for improvement

1 - Advice



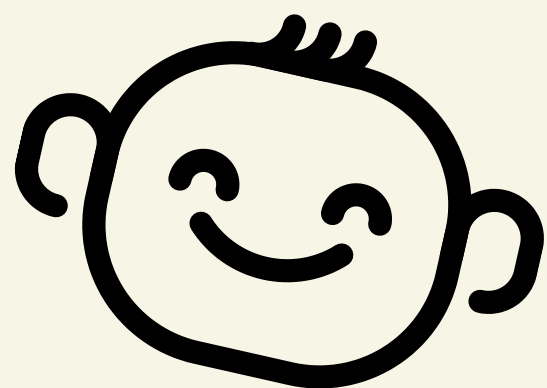
Pregnant women are given advice not to drink alcohol at their first appointment.

Advice is non-judgemental and supportive, with follow-up care if needed, such as counselling or help to stop drinking.

2 - Records



Pregnant women have information on their alcohol consumption recorded throughout their pregnancy.



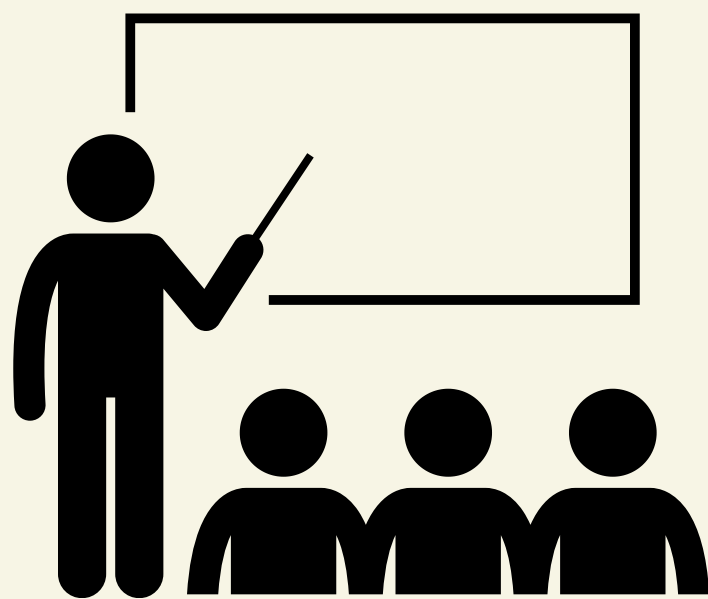
This also will be recorded on the child's records. (This can help with diagnosis later.)

3 - Referral



Children and young people with physical, developmental or behavioural difficulties and probable prenatal alcohol exposure are referred for assessment.

Health services will have to show they have:

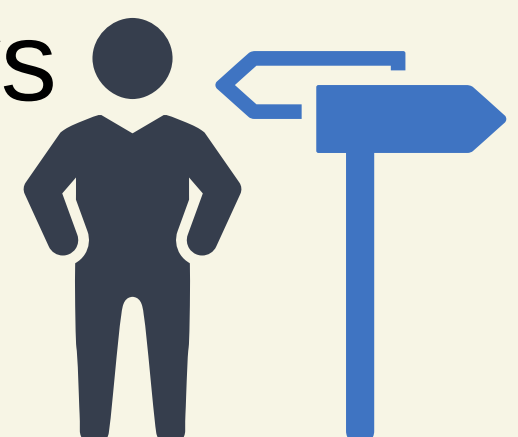


- FASD training for GPs, community paediatric services, child development centres and CAMHS.



- multi-disciplinary teams with expertise in FASD.

- referral pathways



4 - Neurodevelopmental assessment



Children and young people with confirmed prenatal alcohol exposure or all 3 facial features associated with prenatal alcohol exposure have a neurodevelopmental assessment if there are clinical concerns.

5 - Management plan



Children and young people with FASD will have a management plan to help coordinate care over a range of healthcare professionals, as well as education and social services.

This Quality Standard is supposed to improve:



- Time to diagnosis for people with FASD
- Experience of NHS services for people with FASD
- Health-related quality of life for people with FASD and their carers
- Educational attainment of people with FASD

The new NICE quality standard is due to be finalised by 26 January 2021.



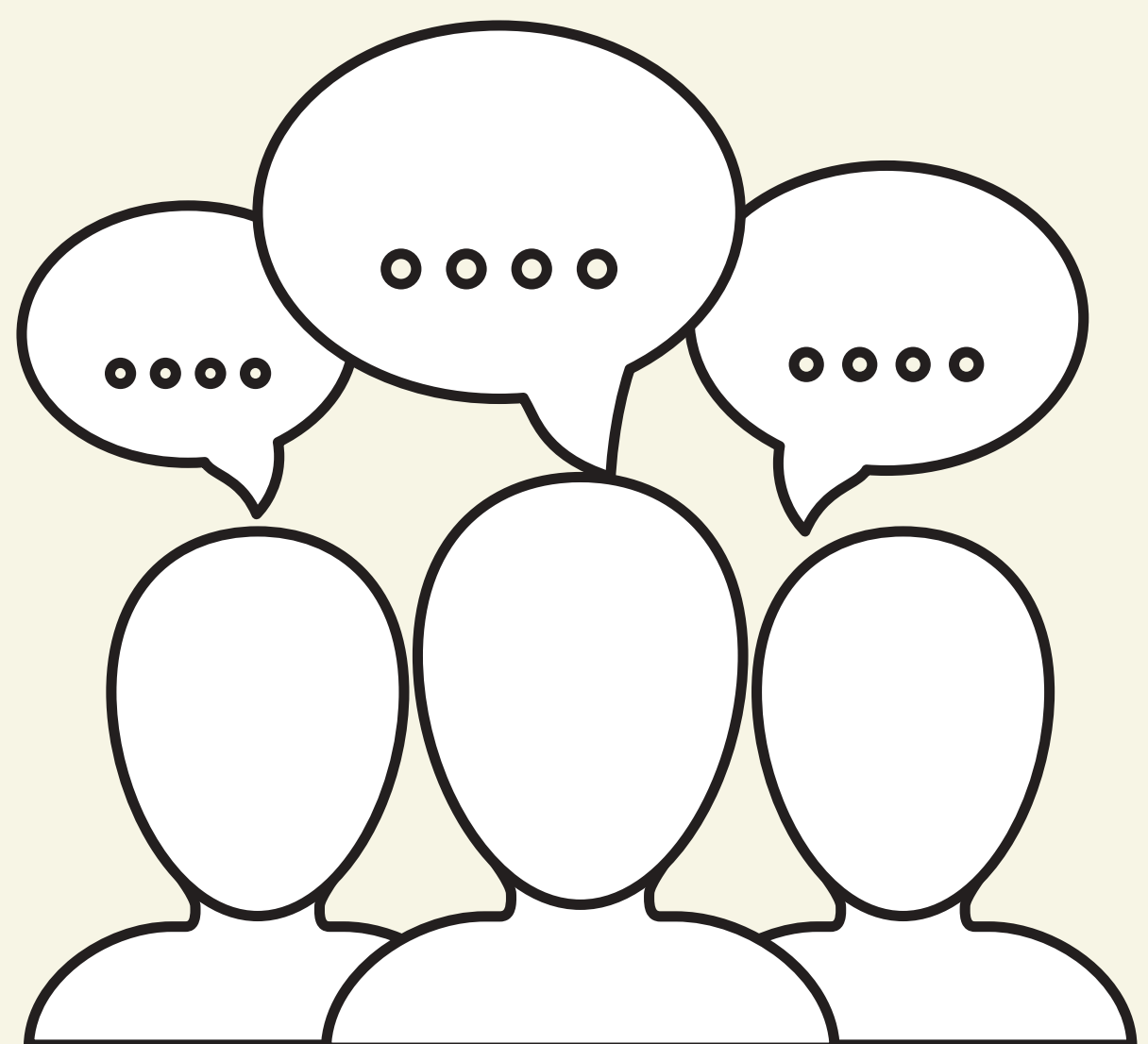
If you have FASD or care for someone with FASD, that makes you a 'stakeholder'. You have a right to have your views heard.



Organisations can register to be part of this process. NOFAS-UK and other FASD UK Alliance groups will help ensure that NICE #HearOurVoices and will continue to seek your input.



Some people are pushing for NICE to make its own guidance on FASD that can cover more things - like care after a diagnosis and care for adults with FASD.



For the full draft Quality Standard and more info:
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-qs10139>

#ChangelsComing!

People with FASD and their families have been at the core of pushing for these changes.



NOFAS-UK and other groups in the FASD UK Alliance have been urging action from policy makers.

#HearOurVoices

All people with FASD - adults and children - have a right to diagnosis and support with dignity.

www.NationalFASD.org.uk

Member, FASD UK Alliance

National FASD • Policy Matters • 27 August 2020