

From the Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Dr Naresh Chada

Circular HSC (SQSD) (NICE NG135) 29/19

Subject: NICE Public Health Guideline NG135 - Alcohol interventions in secondary and further education

For action by:

Chief Executive of HSC Board – **for distribution to:**
All HSC Board Directors – for cascade to relevant staff

Director of Integrated Care, HSC Board – **for cascade to:**
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management
Family Practitioner Services Leads – for cascade to relevant
Family Practitioner groups

Chief Executive of Public Health Agency – **for distribution to:**
Director of Public Health and Medical Director – for cascade
to relevant staff
Director of Nursing and AHPs – for cascade to relevant staff

Chief Executives of HSC Trusts – **for distribution to:**
Medical Directors – for cascade to relevant staff
Directors of Nursing – for cascade to relevant staff
Heads of Pharmaceutical Services – for cascade to relevant
staff
Directors of Acute Services – for cascade to relevant staff
HSC Clinical and Social Governance Leads
Directors of Social Services – for cascade to relevant staff
Directors of Finance – for cascade to relevant staff
AHP Leads – for cascade to relevant staff

Chief Executive, Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority – **for cascade to:** relevant independent healthcare establishments

Chief Executives of HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs

For Information to:

Chair of HSC Board
Chair of Public Health Agency
Chairs of HSC Trusts
Chair of RQIA
NICE Implementation Facilitator NI
Members of NI NICE Managers' Forum

Summary of Contents:

This guideline covers interventions in secondary and further education to prevent and reduce alcohol use among children and young people aged 11 up to and including 18. It also covers people aged 11 to 25 with special educational needs or disabilities in full-time education. It will also be relevant to children aged 11 in year 6 of primary school.

Enquiries:

Any enquiries about the content of this Circular should be addressed to:
Quality Regulation and Improvement Unit
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Circular Reference: HSC (SQSD) (NICE NG135) 29/19

Date of Issue: 21 October 2019

Related documents:

HSC (SQSD) 37/15

Superseded documents

None

Status of Contents:

Action

Implementation:

As per circular HSC (SQSD) 37/15

Additional copies:

Available to download from
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/safety-and-quality-standards/national-institute-health-and-care-excellence-nice>

Dear Colleagues

NICE Public Health Guideline NG135 - Alcohol interventions in secondary and further education - <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng135>

The Department has recently reviewed the above NICE guidance and has formally considered it for applicability in Northern Ireland.

Decision:

All recommendations in *NG135 - Alcohol interventions in secondary and further education* are to be **taken into account in designing and delivering services** that are aimed at helping prevent and reduce alcohol use among children and young people in secondary and further education.

Action Required:

In accordance with the process outlined in circular HSC (SQSD) 37/15, the following initial actions should be taken.

1. HSCB/PHA
 - a. Identify a Professional Lead who will consider the commissioning implications of the Public Health Guideline and co-ordinate with any other relevant commissioning teams.
 - b. The PHA will identify other relevant stakeholders and networks and disseminate as appropriate, typically within two weeks of receipt.
 - c. The HSC Board will ensure that relevant guidance is sent to the appropriate Family Practitioners.
2. HSC Trusts
 - a. Proceed with targeted dissemination, agree a clinical/management lead to coordinate implementation and consider what has to be done to achieve implementation using a risk based assessment and baseline review as appropriate to support planning. These initial actions should be undertaken within a three month period.
3. RQIA
 - a. Disseminate the Guideline to the independent sector as appropriate.
4. HSC Special Agencies and NDPBs
 - a. Take account of this Guideline in training and other developments as appropriate.

To inform the planning process, please find attached details from the Departmental review. You should consider and take account of other relevant policies and strategies in your planning, as well as any legislative / policy caveats identified in the course of the Departmental review.

The detailed arrangements for implementation, monitoring and assurance can be found in circular (<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/safety-quality-and-standards-circulars-2015-2016>).

A full current list of NICE guidance endorsed for application in Northern Ireland can be found on the Department's website (<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/safety-and-quality-standards/national-institute-health-and-care-excellence-nice>).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Chada', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Dr Naresh Chada
Deputy Chief Medical Officer

Appendix 1

Endorsed NICE guidance - Details from Departmental review

Reference Number	NICE Public Health Guideline – NG135 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng135
Title	Alcohol interventions in secondary and further education
Summary of guidance	<p>This guideline updates and replaces NICE Public Health Guideline PH7 - Alcohol: school-based interventions, which was published by NICE in November 2007, prior to the introduction of the DoH process for endorsing Public Health guidelines.</p> <p>The guideline covers interventions in secondary and further education to prevent and reduce alcohol use among children and young people aged 11 up to and including 18. It also covers people aged 11 to 25 with special educational needs or disabilities in full-time education. It will also be relevant to children aged 11 in year 6 of primary school.</p> <p>This guideline includes recommendations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning alcohol education • delivering universal alcohol education • targeted interventions
Related strategically relevant policies	<p>New Strategic Direction for Alcohol and Drugs https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/alcohol-and-drug-new-strategic-direction-phase-2-2011-16.pdf</p> <p>Outcomes Delivery Plan 2018-19 https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/execoffice/outcomes-delivery-plan-2018-19.pdf</p>
Inter-Departmental interest	<p>The Department of Education (DE) noted EA Youth Service provides generic and targeted programmes on personal health and wellbeing, including issues relating to alcohol.</p> <p>Alcohol is identified as an issue in the Regional Assessment of Needs. Therefore, while the focus of the guidance is on a whole-school approach, the guidance would also be beneficial to youth services. A number of the recommendations, such as age appropriate spiral and involving young people in decisions about them and the interventions offered to them, are already accepted practice in the youth service.</p>

	<p>The Department for the Economy (DfE) noted no issues identified within the further education sector. Support mechanisms, including raising awareness events are already in place in across all Colleges to address and assist any alcohol related issues.</p>
<p>Legislative / policy caveats</p>	<p>This advice does not override or replace the individual responsibility of health professionals to make appropriate decisions in the circumstances of their individual patients, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer. This would, for example, include situations where individual patients have other conditions or complications that need to be taken into account in determining whether the NICE guidance is fully appropriate in their case.</p> <p>This guidance makes reference to a number of pieces of legislation in respect of education. In Northern Ireland the curriculum provisions are set out in the <i>Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006</i>. The special educational provision is set out in the <i>Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1996</i> as amended by the <i>Special Educational Needs and Disability (Northern Ireland) Order 2005</i> and further amended by the <i>Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (Northern Ireland) 2016</i>. Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2006/1915/contents/made http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2005/1117/contents http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2016/8/contents</p>