



**Health
Information
and Quality
Authority**

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

Retired Health and Social Care Standards and Guidance

June 2025

About the Health Information and Quality Authority

The Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) is an independent statutory body established to promote safety and quality in the provision of health and social care services for the benefit of the health and welfare of the public.

Reporting to the Minister for Health and engaging with relevant government Ministers and departments, HIQA has responsibility for the following:

- **Setting standards for health and social care services** — Developing person-centred standards and guidance, based on evidence and international best practice, for health and social care services in Ireland.
- **Regulating social care services** — The Chief Inspector of Social Services within HIQA is responsible for registering and inspecting residential services for older people and people with a disability, and children's special care units.
- **Regulating health services** — Regulating medical exposure to ionising radiation.
- **Monitoring services** — Monitoring the safety and quality of permanent international protection accommodation service centres, health services and children's social services against the national standards. Where necessary, HIQA investigates serious concerns about the health and welfare of people who use health services and children's social services.
- **Health technology assessment** — Evaluating the clinical and cost effectiveness of health programmes, policies, medicines, medical equipment, diagnostic and surgical techniques, health promotion and protection activities, and providing advice to enable the best use of resources and the best outcomes for people who use our health service.
- **Health information** — Advising on the efficient and secure collection and sharing of health information, setting standards, evaluating information resources and publishing information on the delivery and performance of Ireland's health and social care services.
- **National Care Experience Programme** — Carrying out national service-user experience surveys across a range of health and social care services, with the Department of Health and the HSE.

Visit www.higa.ie for more information.

Retired Health and Social Care Standards and Guidance

The following is a list of national health and social care standards and guidance developed by HIQA which have been retired. This list is correct as of June 2025. Please visit www.hiqa.ie to access all current HIQA national standards and guidance.

Table 1. Retired Health and Social Care Standards

National Standards	Year Retired	Newer version published
National Standards for Safer Better Healthcare, first edition (2012)	2024	2024
National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare-Associated Infections (2009)	2017	2017
National Quality Standards for Residential Care Settings for Older People in Ireland (2009)	2016	2016
National Quality Standards: Residential Services for People with Disabilities (2009)	2013	2013

Table 2. Retired Health and Social Care Guidance and Support Tools

Guidance and Support Tools	Year Retired
Supporting People's Autonomy (2016)	2024
Supporting People's Autonomy – leaflet (2016)	2024
Guidance for designated centres: intimacy and sexual relationships (2014)	2024
Guidance for designated centres: intimate care (2014)	2024
Guidance for designated centres: risk management (2014)	2024
Guidance for health and social care providers: principles of good practice in medication reconciliation (2014)	2024

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