



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

NATIONAL AGED CARE MANDATORY
QUALITY INDICATOR PROGRAM

Incontinence care



Make it count

Continuous improvement is about seeking and applying opportunities to enhance the quality of care and outcomes for care recipients.

Take 60 seconds to understand how to measure and report on incontinence care and help your service enhance the quality of care and outcomes for your care recipients.



Click the arrow
to continue

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Why measurement matters

Incontinence is the loss of bladder and bowel control, which can impact independence, health and quality of life.

Incontinence associated dermatitis (IAD) is a type of skin irritation or damage, due to prolonged contact with urine or faeces. It is often characterised by redness, inflammation and/or skin breakdown. The quality of incontinence care can be measured by the prevalence of poor outcomes such as IAD.

Between 6 – 23% of care recipients in residential aged care experience IAD.

Residential aged care services can ensure people have access to the right treatments and support to assist bladder and bowel control and reduce risk factors for the development of IAD.

Source: Van Damme N, Van den Bussche K, De Meyer D, Van Hecke A, Verhaeghe S, Beeckman D. Independent risk factors for the development of skin erosion due to incontinence (incontinence-associated dermatitis category 2) in nursing home residents: results from a multivariate binary regression analysis. International Wound Journal. 2017;14(5):801-10.



Impact of incontinence

Incontinence exposes care recipients to complications that can have significant impact on all areas of health and wellbeing.

Click on the boxes to learn how incontinence can impact care recipients.

How to measure IAD

A single IAD assessment is completed for each care recipient with incontinence around the same time each quarter, as part of routine personal care. The IAD assessment tool used in the QI Program is the **Ghent Global IAD Categorisation Tool**.

Click on the boxes to learn more about the IAD assessment tool.

What are the IAD categories?

The Ghent Global IAD Categorisation Tool includes the following four IAD categories.

Click on the boxes to learn more.

Approved providers must consult with a suitably qualified health practitioner if there is uncertainty about the presence or category of IAD.

Source: Beeckman D, Van den Bussche K, Alves P, Beele H, Ciprandi G, Coyer F, de Groot T, De Meyer D, Dunk AM, Fourie A, García-Molina P, Gray M, Iblasi A, Jelnes R, Johansen E, Karadağ A, LeBlanc K, Kis Dadara Z, Long MA, Meaume S, Pokorna A, Romanelli M, Ruppert S, Schoonhoven L, Smet S, Smith C, Steininger A, Stockmayr M, Van Damme N, Voegeli D, Van Hecke A, Verhaeghe S, Woo K and Kottner J (2017), The Ghent Global IAD Categorisation Tool (GLOBIAD), Skin Integrity Research Group - Ghent University.



How to collect data for incontinence care

The following data is collected and reported on for the incontinence care quality indicator.

Click on the boxes to learn more.

Quality improvement

Awareness of risk factors and some simple steps can support incontinence management and reduce IAD.

The checklist on the right will help assess care recipients who are at risk of incontinence and provide potential support and management strategies.

- STEP 1** Undertake a baseline continence assessment
- STEP 2** Undertake ongoing screening for incontinence
- STEP 3** Document findings in care record and undertake collaborative care planning
- STEP 4** Implement appropriate multi-faceted strategies aligned with care recipient's needs and preferences
- STEP 5** Recognise and manage adverse clinical events associated with incontinence

For detailed information on potential prevention and management strategies, and quality improvement activities, please refer to the **QI Program Manual 4.0 – Part B**.

Ask QIRI

The Quality Indicator Reporting Instructor (QIRI) answers your questions about incontinence care.

Click on a speech bubble to learn a top tip from QIRI.



Quality indicator challenge



Congratulations!

**You have completed
Module Eight –
Incontinence care.**

Test your knowledge in the box on the right then move onto the next module.

Take the quick quiz!

How many sub-categories of IAD are there using the Ghent Global IAD Categorisation Tool?

One

Three

Four