# Enable carers to access and assess support networks and respite services



#### **Overview**

This standard is about enabling carers to access and assess support networks and respite services.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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## Performance criteria

#### You must be able to:

- P1 create an environment (eg time, facilities, privacy) where the carer(s) can discuss their fears and concerns relating to the changes and transitions in their role as carer
- P2 establish rapport with the carer(s) and communicate with them with respect and the privacy they wish
- P3 communicate with the carer(s) in a manner and at a level and pace appropriate to them
- P4 discuss the availability of support networks (eg their setting, format of the group, cultural) and respite services (eg provided by statutory, private or voluntary agencies, sit-in, day or overnight centres))
- P5 provide the necessary contact details of the support networks, respite services and relevant agencies, as applicable
- P6 encourage the carer(s) to assess the support networks and respite services
- P7 assist the carer(s) to identify the support networks and respite services that match their needs, preferences and beliefs
- P8 encourage the carer(s) to discuss their successes, failures and experiences with the support networks and respite services

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# Knowledge and understanding

## You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (eg culture, language, or special needs)
- K2 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K3 how to establish an understanding of an individual's values, beliefs and interests
- K4 the importance of providing individuals with opportunities to ask questions and increase their understanding
- K5 the importance of encouraging individuals to give constructive feedback
- K6 the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K7 the information people need in order to be able to make informed lifestyle choices
- K8 the principle of informed consent, and how to obtain informed consent from individuals
- K9 organisational guidelines on the level and type of support you can provide
- K10 organisational policy on confidentiality
- K11 the details of local and regional respite services, and how to utilise them
- K12 the details of local, regional and national support groups available
- K13 how the support groups are run (eg formally or informally)
- K14 who runs the support groups (eg voluntary or statutory organisations or through the NHS Trust)
- K15 the services provided by the support groups (eg counselling, guidance, training)

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### **Additional Information**

### **External Links**

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB4 Enablement to address health and wellbeing needs

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Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	CHD HN3
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Coronary Heart Disease
Key words	coronary heart disease