

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

Overview

This standard is about informing parents of their child's adverse prognosis following diagnosis. It covers preparing yourself and the environment, discussing the prognosis and explaining the implications for the child in terms of further treatment and support for the family. It also covers dealing with the parents reactions and helping them to plan to inform their child where this is appropriate. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. plan and prepare a suitable environment to allow privacy, minimise disruption and ensure confidentiality during the disclosure
2. set aside sufficient time and plan how the consultation will be conducted
3. review all investigations and communicate the facts concerning the current and future health status of the child clearly and sensitively at a level and pace that promotes understanding
4. encourage parents and carers to ask questions and clarify their understanding in order to assess the implications of the information being given
5. actively manage expected reactions in a supportive manner that allows parents to express their feelings
6. take appropriate action and seek additional support when reactions pose an unacceptable risk to those present
7. discuss the implications of the prognosis for the child, parents, siblings and other family members and significant others in contact with the child
8. agree a strategy with parents for informing the child of their prognosis, according to age, developmental capabilities and level of understanding
9. explain treatment options to the parents agree opportunities for further discussion with appropriate professionals if parents require
10. discuss sources of support with parents and how they can access this
11. record agreed actions resulting from the discussion

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. legal, organisational and policy requirements relevant to your role and the activities being carried out
2. the nature, extent and boundaries of your work role and its relationship to others in your own and other organisations
3. the roles of other practitioners working with children, young people and families and how they relate between and across agencies
4. the importance of effective multi-agency working
5. the ethical issues, legal requirements and good practice guidelines on consent, including capacity issues and consent for children and young people
6. the principle of confidentiality and the implications for your practice
7. how to recognise and respond to the signs of injury, abuse or neglect and your responsibility in relation to raising concerns with the appropriate person or agency
8. local systems, procedures and protocols for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults
9. the principles of equality, diversity and anti-discriminatory practice and how they are applied
10. the guidance that is available for your own practice and where to access this
11. current issues, research and evidence based practice relevant to your role
12. the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to the child or young person
13. the rights of children and young people to make decisions for themselves and to take risks in the context of their own lives, taking into account issues of capacity and your professional responsibility
14. how to engage with and communicate effectively with children and young people, and those involved in their care
15. the need for communication to be modified for different contexts and cultures, including the age, vulnerability, understanding, developmental capacity and communication needs and preferences of the child or young person and those involved in their care
16. the ways in which children and young people communicate non-verbally and through behaviour, as well as through language, and how different forms of behaviour can be interpreted
17. the importance of adopting a child/young person centred approach
18. the conditions and issues affecting children and young people in your area of practice and how they can inter-relate

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

19. child and young people's development, including emotional, physical, and social and how they affect one another
20. the differing needs of children and young people at different stages of their lives
21. how the needs of children and young people may affect others
22. the effect of parenting capacity, family, environment and cultural influences on the health and wellbeing of children and young people
23. the factors that contribute to the risk of harm to children and young people
24. local sources of health and well-being information, advice and support for children and young people, and those involved in their care
25. the theories relating to bereavement and loss
26. how emotional states can affect the communication cycle and how this can be accommodated
27. the physical and emotional signs that indicate the need for specialist support and interventions
28. the methods used to assess and manage risk in situations where individuals may behave in unpredictable ways
29. organisational policies relating to referral to specialist services
30. the importance of keeping full and accurate records, and how to do so in line with organisational requirements

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):
Dimension: Core 1 Communication

Share an adverse prognosis about children and young people with their families

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version Number	2
Date Approved	January 2015
Indicative Review Date	January 2020
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	SFHCS26
Relevant Occupations	Health Professionals
Suite	Children and Young People's Health Services
Keywords	Adverse; prognosis; children; families