

SFHDiabED01

Provide advice and information to men with diabetes about erectile dysfunction



Overview

This standard covers providing initial advice and information to all men with diabetes about erectile dysfunction. It may apply when supporting a man during the early stages after diagnosis, but particularly during subsequent appointments to monitor the man's health and well-being. Work in this area may lead to a referral for assessment and treatment. It has been estimated that the prevalence of erectile dysfunction in men with diabetes may be as high as 75%. It is associated with significant psychological morbidity and is, therefore, as important as many other complications of diabetes. However, a general reluctance amongst patients and some health professionals to discuss sexual functioning means that it often goes unrecognised, unreported and untreated.

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 explain clearly and calmly to the individual or third party your own role and its scope, responsibilities and accountability in relation to the provision of interim clinical advice
- P2 explain clearly:
 - P2.1 any clinical techniques to be followed and their intended outcomes
 - P2.2 anything they should be monitoring and how to react to any changes
 - P2.3 any expected side effects of the techniques
 - P2.4 any actions to be taken if these occur
- P3 clarify and confirm that the individual or third party understands the advice being given and has the capacity to follow required actions
- P4 provide information that:
 - P4.1 is current best practise
 - P4.2 can be safely put into practice by people who have no clinical knowledge or experience
 - P4.3 acknowledges the complexity of any decisions that the individual or third party has to make
 - P4.4 is in accordance with patient consent and rights
- P5 communicate with the individual, or the third party, in a manner that is appropriate to their level of understanding, culture and background, preferred ways of communicating and which meets their needs
- P6 communicate with the third party in a manner that is mindful of:
 - P6.1 how well they know the individual
 - P6.2 the accuracy and detail that they can give you regarding the situation and the individual's medical history, medication etc
 - P6.3 patient confidentiality, rights and consent
- P7 manage any obstacles to effective communication and check that your advice has been understood
- P8 provide reassurance and support to the individual or third party who will be implementing your advice, pending further assistance
- P9 ensure that you are kept up to date regarding the individual's condition so that you can modify the advice you give if required
- P10 ensure that full details of the situation and the actions already taken are provided to the person or team who take over the responsibility for the individual's care.
- P11 recognise the boundary of your role and responsibility and the situations that are beyond your competence and authority

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 why your role, responsibilities and accountability should be explained
- K2 the general advice and clinical techniques that may need to be employed before the person or team ultimately responsible for the care of the individual arrives
- K3 how best to communicate general advice and clinical techniques to individuals and third parties, bearing in mind that they are likely to be unfamiliar with these and will need reassurance
- K4 the steps you would take to ensure that the privacy, dignity, wishes and beliefs of the individual are maintained
- K5 the importance of clear communication in distant locations and how you would establish this
- K6 how to provide advice whilst adhering to relevant legislation, policies, protocols and guidelines regarding patient confidentiality and consent
- K7 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and legibly
- K8 the legislation, policy and practices with regard to the documentation, storage and sharing of information and records including the use of Integrated Care Record Systems (ICRS)
- K9 your role and the importance of working within your own scope of practice

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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 well-being 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 Diab ED01

Relevant occupations Health, Public Services and Care; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services

Suite Diabetes

Key words diabetes
