

## SFHGEN115

# Assess the needs of the population to determine those who require, or would benefit from, specific health and wellbeing services



### Overview

This standard covers assessing the needs of the population to determine those who require, or would benefit from specific health and wellbeing services

The population is likely to be at regional or local level. It might include everyone in a geographical area who needs specific health and wellbeing services or it may be focused on the health and wellbeing services for a particular client group, such as children and adolescents, adults or the elderly.

The planning of services is based on the identification of the needs of those whom they are designed to serve and is based on a number of principles. These include equity of provision through targeting resources at those most in need, participation of the population in identifying their needs, and evaluating the effectiveness of the means of meeting those needs. Practitioners need to keep an open mind and be alert to areas where needs may be changing or where current means of meeting needs are failing to serve the requirements of some section of the population. One of the key values in this standard is the need to ensure that the population has the opportunity, and is enabled, to feed their views and concerns into the planning process.

This standard describes standards at the operational service provider level. This applies to anyone who has the responsibility for undertaking service planning in a provider role to meet the health and wellbeing needs of a population. 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 identify and use authoritative sources for the supply of information on the health and wellbeing needs of the population and identify factors affecting those needs
- P2 access appropriate qualitative and quantitative data and data sources and extract relevant information
- P3 ensure that where data is insufficient or in conflict, you make contact with those responsible for collecting it to encourage them to increase the amount of information and its validity
- P4 identify trends in the health and wellbeing needs of the population concerned from an analysis of the information over a number of years
- P5 identify trends and developments which affect health and wellbeing services from analysing relevant information
- P6 assess available evidence on the success of different interventions and determine those most appropriate to meet the needs of the population concerned
- P7 put in place processes to keep the data and information on trends and developments up-to-date and relevant to the service concerned
- P8 provide those who commission health and wellbeing services with timely and clear information on the health needs of the population concerned in a way which encourages them to understand their needs and the effectiveness of the services in meeting them

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 how to identify the status and determinants of health and wellbeing
- K2 how to identify appropriate parameters and options for the assessment
- K3 how to identify changing and emerging trends in needs, including the use of indices
- K4 how to select and access qualitative and quantitative information and data sources and sources of informed and interested opinion
- K5 the range of information which is available on health and wellbeing needs and status of populations and how to access this
- K6 the nature of demographic and epidemiological data and how to interpret this for information on your own area of work
- K7 methods of analysing data on the status and determinants of health and wellbeing
- K8 criteria for evaluating the quality of data
- K9 how to summarise information and the key issues emerging from it
- K10 how to identify priorities in relation to health and wellbeing status and need and the issue of rationing within the delivery of services
- K11 trends and developments in health for the population as a whole and for the population which is the focus of your work
- K12 the issue of stigma and how ignorance affects how health and wellbeing needs may be perceived
- K13 the reasons for trends and developments in health and wellbeing
- K14 how service effectiveness is evaluated and the relationship of this to health and wellbeing status and needs
- K15 the sort of evidence which you would be seeking in relation to the effectiveness of services, the quality of the information and its nature
- K16 those parts of the population which traditionally have not been well catered for by health and wellbeing services, the reasons for this and evidence for tackling these issues successfully
- K17 the scope and impact of current legislation relevant to the assessment of needs, both that which is generally applicable and that which is applicable to particular groups
- K18 how to identify the individuals and groups likely to benefit from interventions - both those who are currently using services and those whose needs are not currently being met
- K19 sources of information on the identified needs of a population
- K20 how to access and use information about national, local and organisational strategies and policies for meeting needs and providing

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services

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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: G5 Services and Project Management

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<b>Developed by</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Version number</b>	1
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<b>Date approved</b>	March 2013
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<b>Indicative review date</b>	March 2018
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<b>Validity</b>	Current
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<b>Status</b>	Original
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Original URN</b>	MH55
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Healthcare professionals
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<b>Suite</b>	General Healthcare
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<b>Key words</b>	Assess; needs; population; health; wellbeing; services; planning; data; trends
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