

SFHHPC10

Examine and assess individuals detained under road traffic legislation



Overview

This standard is about healthcare professionals examining and assessing individuals who have been detained under road traffic legislation. It includes taking account of background information and the results of any physical or mental health assessment to form a judgement whether there are indications that an individual's condition may be due to drugs or alcohol.

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 give priority to procedures related to road traffic legislation where safe and practicable to do so
- P2 obtain relevant background information from police officers/staff
- P3 communicate with the individual and with police officers/staff clearly and in ways that promote understanding
- P4 explain your own role and its scope, your responsibilities and accountability, including any requirements to disclose information obtained
- P5 use appropriate questions to confirm background information and obtain details of the individual's health status
- P6 confirm the individual's rights and wishes and obtain their valid consent to examination and assessment
- P7 review the outcomes of any physical or mental health assessments of the
- P8 identify any medical or mental health conditions which may mimic intoxication
- P9 conduct relevant divided attention tests to inform a judgement of whether the individual has a condition which may be due to alcohol or drugs
- P10 ensure any required forensic samples are obtained in accordance with legal and organisational requirements and guidelines
- P11 advise police officers where there are indications that an individual's condition may be due to alcohol or drugs
- P12 advise police officers where any medical condition is identified that may affect driving and advise the individual to notify the DVLA
- P13 keep accurate, legible and complete records in accordance with legal, professional and organisational requirements and guidelines

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the principles of valid consent and the ways in which an individual's ability to give consent may be compromised
- K2 how to establish the individual's best interests where there is doubt about the validity of consent
- K3 the consequences and available options when an individual refuses, or is unable, to give consent
- K4 why calls for procedures under road traffic legislation should be given priority and when it is safe to do so
- K5 how to identify conditions that might indicate an individual's use of, or withdrawal from, alcohol or drugs
- K6 how to identify general medical conditions or mental disorders which may mimic intoxication
- K7 the available 'divided attention tests' and how these should be used
- K8 how to communicate clearly and in ways that promote understanding
- K9 the different types of needs, concerns and beliefs individuals may have
- K10 requirements for the disclosure of information obtained from detained individuals
- K11 how to keep accurate, legible and complete records in accordance with legal, professional and organisational requirements and guidelines
- K12 the relevant national legislation governing fitness to drive
- K13 the distinction between impairment of the ability to drive under Road Traffic Legislation and national legislation governing fitness to drive
- K14 when the DVLA should be informed of an individual's condition which may affect safe driving

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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: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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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	HPC10
Relevant occupations	Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Police Custody
Key words	Examination, assessment, forensic, drugs, alcohol, substance, misuse, road, traffic, transport.