

SFHHPC2

Advise on the fitness of individuals to be detained in police custody



Overview

This standard is about health care professionals advising on the fitness of individuals to be detained in police custody. It includes taking account of background information and the results of any physical or mental health assessments and may require advising on potential care requirements or making arrangements for individuals to be transferred to hospital or other specialist services. Note: This would be carried out following any physical or mental health assessments of the individual.

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 obtain relevant background information from police officers/staff, including the reasons for their decision to involve a healthcare professional
- P2 communicate with the individual and with police officers/staff clearly and in ways that promote understanding
- P3 establish how long the individual would be expected to remain in custody and possible actions related to the individual's detention
- P4 review the outcomes of any physical or mental health examinations of the
- P5 recommend whether the individuals is fit to be detained, taking account of their physical or mental health condition and any risk of self-harm
- P6 advise police officers/staff on care requirements for individuals who are fit to be detained
- P7 advise on the need for review of continued fitness to be detained, including when and how such reviews should be carried out
- P8 explore options for transfer or referral of those individuals who are not fit to be detained, including review of their home circumstances if relevant
- P9 liaise with other healthcare professionals and specialist service providers to determine the realistic and appropriate options for transfer or referral
- P10 advise on arrangements for transferring the individual to hospital if required
- P11 recognise the limitations of your own knowledge, experience and authority, and refer to specialists where required
- P12 provide a written record of any advice or recommendations made to the police using the relevant documentation
- P13 keep accurate, legible and complete contemporaneous 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 how to obtain background information about an individual and their circumstances
- K2 how the duration of an individual's expected detention and expected actions during that detention relate to their fitness to be detained
- K3 the physical and mental health conditions which may affect an individual's fitness to be detained
- K4 the possible care requirements for individuals who are detained with physical and mental health conditions
- K5 when and how an individual's continued fitness to be detained should be reviewed
- K6 the options for transfer or referral for individuals who are not fit to be detained
- K7 how to communicate clearly and in ways that promote understanding
- K8 how to keep accurate, legible and complete records in accordance with legal, professional and organisational requirements and guidelines
- K9 how to liaise with other healthcare professionals and specialist services
- K10 relevant national legislation, guidance and codes of practice governing fitness for detention

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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: HWB2 Assessment and care planning to meet people's health and wellbeing needs

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