

## SFHLTCN23

Support individuals with neurological conditions to optimise their independence



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### Overview

This standard covers the way practitioners can support individuals with neurological conditions to optimise their independence. The practitioner will need to review all relevant information about the individual's condition and their degree of independence. The practitioner can monitor the use of interventions, and identify how effective they have been and whether any problems have emerged.

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 respect the individual's rights and wishes relating to their privacy, beliefs, and dignity, and obtain informed consent whenever appropriate
- P2 provide appropriate support and information to the individual, and the carers they specify, to enable them to make informed choices throughout the process of optimising their independence
- P3 ensure that health and safety measures relevant to optimising their independence are undertaken
- P4 review all relevant information about the individual's condition
- P5 identify the most appropriate interventions to use with the individual to optimise their independence
- P6 enable the individual to monitor their responses to the use of interventions, and to report any concerns or problems with them
- P7 establish whether the interventions are being suitably provided and utilised
- P8 monitor the condition of the individual, and take appropriate action to respond to any independence difficulties or adverse effects
- P9 keep accurate, legible, and complete records, and comply with all the relevant legal, professional, and organisational requirements and guidelines

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#### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the relationships between individuals and their carers, and how much they might want their involvement
- K2 the requirements and needs of carers, and how they could respond to changes in the condition of individuals
- K3 the type of information that is most useful to carers, and their right to access it
- K4 the role and responsibilities of different groups of carers, and the services and assistance to which they should be entitled
- K5 the abuse of carers, including physical, emotional, sexual, and financial
- K6 the difficulties with communication that can arise as a result of specific neurological conditions, and how this changes according to fluctuations of symptoms
- K7 the methods and equipment that can be used to assess and monitor the communication skills of individuals
- K8 the guidelines and procedures for communicating with individuals with communication difficulties
- K9 the services and resources that are available to assist individuals to communicate, including communication aids, interventions, and strategies
- K10 the effects of communication difficulties on the individual and their relationships with others
- K11 the role of carers and others in facilitating communication
- K12 the legislation relating to the care of individuals, including the role of practitioners and clinical practice, human rights, data protection, and health and safety
- K13 the ethics and responsibilities of practitioners, including professional codes of conduct and guidelines
- K14 government and organisational policies, procedures, and guidelines relating to the care of individuals with neurological conditions
- K15 evidence based practice and its role in improving care
- K16 the principles of informed consent, including implied consent and expressed consent, and how these are applied in practice to protect individuals
- K17 the relevant national and organisational policies and guidelines on consent
- K18 enduring power of attorney and other statutory statements, and other formal and informal methods of expressing wishes, including living wills
- K19 the difficulties with independence that can arise as a result of specific neurological conditions, and how the degree of independence changes according to fluctuations of symptoms

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- K20 the guidelines and procedures for dealing with difficulties with independence
- K21 the assessment methods that can be used to identify levels of independence
- K22 the interventions available for assisting the management of independence
- K23 the services and resources available for dealing with difficulties with independence
- K24 the requirements and needs of individuals, and the resources and services that are available to help them
- K25 confidentiality and privacy issues relating to individuals
- K26 methods to ensure individuals can maintain their dignity
- K27 diversity issues, including culture, religion, sexuality, and identity
- K28 individuals' rights to information, and what is likely to be most useful to them during the different phases of a neurological condition
- K29 the ways of presenting information, including statistical, factual, and anecdotal information
- K30 the abuse of individuals, including neglect, physical, emotional, sexual, and financial
- K31 the current issues and research debates on neurological conditions
- K32 information and library services for practitioners, individuals, and carers
- K33 the main journals, magazines, web-sites, and patient guidance notes and leaflets for specific neurological conditions
- K34 the providers of authoritative and high quality information on neurological conditions, including centres of research and the voluntary sector
- K35 the changes that occur during the course and different stages of specific neurological conditions
- K36 the practitioners that are available to individuals, and how to obtain help from them
- K37 the roles and responsibilities of individuals for managing their own neurological conditions
- K38 the services, equipment, and other resources and benefits available to help manage neurological conditions
- K39 when to review the management of neurological conditions
- K40 the aetiology, course, and progression of specific neurological conditions
- K41 the possible causes of specific neurological conditions, including genetic or environmental factors
- K42 the anatomy and physiology relevant to specific neurological conditions
- K43 the symptoms, complications, and outcomes of specific neurological conditions
- K44 the short, medium, and long term effects of specific neurological conditions on individuals and their carers
- K45 the interventions for specific neurological conditions
- K46 organisational management structures and hierarchies

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- K47 procedures and protocols for contacting individuals, practitioners, carers, and agencies
- K48 record keeping systems and policies in the organisation
- K49 complaints and appeals procedures
- K50 own role and roles of other practitioners and agencies in providing a service to individuals
- K51 how to work within interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary teams
- K52 the services provided by relevant national, local, and voluntary social and healthcare agencies
- K53 the resources available to different practitioners and agencies

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### **Additional Information**

#### **External Links**

This standard has indicative links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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<b>Developed by</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Original URN</b>	LTCN23
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Health, Public Services and Care; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
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<b>Suite</b>	Long Term Conditions - Neurological Care
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<b>Key words</b>	neurology
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