

SFHLTCN9

Conduct clinical examinations of individuals with neurological conditions



Overview

This standard covers the clinical examinations of individuals with neurological conditions. The practitioner will need to discuss the clinical examination with the individual. The clinical examination will review all relevant information, and also cover physical or psychological testing depending on the presentation of the condition. The results of the clinical examination will be used for the diagnosis. Other standards are available to cover the overall assessment process and diagnosis.

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 clinical examination
- P3 discuss the clinical examination with the individual, and provide them with relevant information and a rationale for it
- P4 ensure that health and safety measures relevant to the clinical examination are undertaken
- P5 ensure that all equipment and facilities necessary for the clinical examination are available and suitable for use
- P6 conduct the clinical examination in a manner that fully involves the individual
- P7 conduct the clinical examination effectively to identify symptoms and potential causes
- P8 take prompt appropriate action in responses to any problems which occur during or following the clinical examination
- 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 procedures and guidelines for clinical examinations
- K7 the approaches and equipment for identifying signs of specific neurological conditions
- K8 the tests and samples that need to be collected for specific neurological conditions
- K9 the reliability and limitations of clinical examination techniques, and the interpretation and documentation of the results
- K10 the risks associated with clinical examinations
- K11 the difficulties with communication that can arise as a result of specific neurological conditions, and how this changes according to fluctuations of symptoms
- K12 the methods and equipment that can be used to assess and monitor the communication skills of individuals
- K13 the guidelines and procedures for communicating with individuals with communication difficulties
- K14 the services and resources that are available to assist individuals to communicate, including communication aids, interventions, and strategies
- K15 the effects of communication difficulties on the individual and their relationships with others
- K16 the role of carers and others in facilitating communication
- K17 the legislation relating to the care of individuals, including the role of practitioners and clinical practice, human rights, data protection, and health and safety
- K18 the ethics and responsibilities of practitioners, including professional codes of conduct and guidelines
- K19 government and organisational policies, procedures, and guidelines relating to the care of individuals with neurological conditions
- K20 evidence based practice and its role in improving care
- K21 the principles of informed consent, including implied consent and expressed consent, and how these are applied in practice to protect individuals

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- K22 the relevant national and organisational policies and guidelines on consent
- K23 enduring power of attorney and other statutory statements, and other formal and informal methods of expressing wishes, including living wills
- 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
- 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

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- 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
- K54 the symptoms of specific neurological conditions and how they can be recognised
- K55 how symptoms interact with each other
- K56 how symptoms can mask or be indications of other non-neurological conditions and co-morbidities
- K57 the impact of symptoms on behaviour and lifestyle, and how it can be minimised
- K58 the interventions that can be used for managing symptoms

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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 HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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