Work in partnership with others to plan investigations to protect the public's health and wellbeing from specific risks



Overview

This standard covers working with others to plan investigations to protect the public's health and wellbeing from specific risks so that the public's health and wellbeing can be protected from specific risks. This is often known as tertiary prevention. When this standard is applied to specific risks, a range of different legislation might apply. Users of this standard will need to be conscious of this broader context and the impact that it will have on the roles and responsibilities of practitioners, including the regulatory powers invested in particular roles.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

1

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 identify and appropriately access relevant sources of information on
 - P1.1 health and wellbeing
 - P1.2 stressors to health and wellbeing
- P2 work in partnership with others to assess the nature, location and seriousness of problems from the information available and in discussion with relevant people
- P3 analyse the available information from monitoring and surveillance activities to determine the problems that need to be addressed
- P4 identify the factors that might be causing the problems
 - P4.1 from the information available
 - P4.2 in discussion with relevant people
 - P4.3 and agree priorities for action
- P5 work in partnership with others to research and develop baseline information about
 - P5.1 root causes
 - P5.2 risks
 - P5.3 priorities
 - P5.4 how others have addressed problems
- P6 work in partnership with others to appraise a range of options for addressing the agreed priorities based upon
 - P6.1 surveillance data
 - P6.2 information gathering
 - P6.3 specific epidemiological information
- P7 select in partnership with others those options that have the best chance of success and make the most effective use of human and financial resources
- P8 develop in partnership with others an action plan that specifies
 - P8.1 aims and objectives
 - P8.2 methods to be used
 - P8.3 inputs
 - P8.4 anticipated timescales
 - P8.5 key people and their roles, responsibilities and tasks
 - P8.6 evaluation criteria
- P9 record plans and agreements accurately and disseminate them promptly to relevant parties

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the social construction of health and illness and how this affects people's perceptions
- K2 the kinds of misinformation which people receive about health and wellbeing and how this can be counteracted
- K3 stressors to health and wellbeing: biological; chemical; physical; social; psychosocial
- K4 inequality and discrimination and their impact on health and wellbeing, and how to recognise and address inequality and discrimination in the context of Human Rights legislation
- K5 risks to health and wellbeing avoidable, relative and absolute risk, and the importance of the context of the risk and the factors that may modify its impact
- K6 appropriate risk management objectives
- K7 the concept of acceptable risk and whose values define this (i.e. political, social, scientific, the community)
- K8 how to assess different types of risk and appraisal of the different strategies for managing such risks, and the importance of taking action that is proportionate to the scale and seriousness of the risk so that fear is not disproportionate to the actual risk
- K9 how to plan investigations to address risks to the public's health and wellbeing (identifying and accessing relevant information; using surveillance information; identifying the nature and seriousness of problems; developing baseline information; option appraisal for action; action planning)
- K10 team working to address risks to protect health and wellbeing: (identifying and putting into effect an appropriate plan; agreeing team roles and responsibilities; effective team working, communication and coordination; summative review of effectiveness)
- K11 regulatory powers of enforcement in relation to the protection of health and wellbeing such as detention, arrest, enforceable removal from environments
- K12 the roles and responsibilities of people and organisations involved in protecting the population's health and wellbeing (e.g. communicable disease control consultants and specialists, primary care trusts/cooperatives, health authorities/boards, local authorities, environmental health, microbiology, genito-urinary medicine departments, infection control personnel, hospital control of infection committees)
- K13 the importance of, and how to achieve, effective relationships with the media in the protection of the population's health and wellbeing

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- K14 the specific legislation, guidelines of good practice, charters and service standards that relate to the work being undertaken and the impact of these on the work
- K15 the services, policies and priorities of the worker's agency and how it relates to other agencies in the sector
- K16 the data storage and retrieval systems used by agencies working in health improvement
- K17 codes of practice and protocols about confidentiality and information sharing between agencies working in partnership
- K18 effective communication skills with people in own agency, those in other agencies and with communities and the public; barriers to communication and ways of overcoming them
- K19 own role and responsibilities and from whom assistance and advice should be sought if necessary
- K20 how to apply the principles of equality, diversity and anti-discriminatory practice to work
- K21 how to develop one's own competence and skills in line with changes in knowledge and practice; how the worker's area and scope of practice are changing, the evidence which is available on the work and the implications of this for their own skill and knowledge base

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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: HWB3 Protection of health and wellbeing

Level: 3

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