Work in partnership with others to undertake a full assessment of the impact of policies and strategies on health and wellbeing



Overview

This standard is intended for those who work with others and take a major role in undertaking a full assessment of the health impact of policies and strategies at a macro level, often referred to as health impact assessment.

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 work in partnership with others to develop a comprehensive action plan for undertaking the assessment which includes
 - P1.1 the nature of the assessment
 - P1.2 the magnitude of the assessment
 - P1.3 who is to be involved in the assessment
 - P1.4 effective methods for involving these people
 - P1.5 full and detailed criteria against which the impact will be assessed
 - P1.6 the tools to be used in the assessment
 - P1.7 roles and responsibilities of different people and agencies in the assessment
 - P1.8 what needs to happen and by when
 - P1.9 how the different aspects inter-relate
- P2 work in partnership with others to assess the policy/strategy against the agreed criteria and characterise clearly
 - P2.1 the factors in the policy/strategy that will impact on health and wellbeing and the reduction of inequalities
 - P2.2 the magnitude of the factors
 - P2.3 positive and negative impacts of the policy/strategy
 - P2.4 justification for each of the findings
- P3 work in partnership with others to develop an action plan that details how the positive impacts can be maximised and the negative impacts can be minimised or negated
- P4 present conclusions and recommendations to everyone involved at a time and in a way they are likely to understand and be able to use and that
 - P4.1 acknowledges the complexity of inter-relationships between the different factors and the difficulty of identifying simple causal relationships
- P4.2 highlights the benefits to be gained and the risks of inaction
 work in partnership with others to re-assess the impact of
 policies/strategies on improving health and wellbeing after
 implementation to confirm or deny the accuracy of the assessment

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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 the stressors to health and wellbeing: biological; chemical; physical; social; psychosocial
- K4 the health needs which may remain hidden, why needs related to health and wellbeing may not be known (e.g. domestic violence)
- K5 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
- K6 effective communication skills i.e. how to respond to differences in the way that people communicate; the ways in which communication can be altered for different needs and contexts; barriers to cross cultural communication and ways of overcoming them; how to organise and provide appropriate translation and interpreting services
- K7 negotiation and influencing skills
- K8 the history and development of impact assessments, their current state of development and their relationship to other forms of impact assessments (such as environmental)
- K9 the different aspects that have to be considered when undertaking preliminary assessments and screening of policies (e.g. population analysis, context, quantitative and qualitative prognoses) and apply these in practice
- K10 the assessment tools that are used in impact assessments
- K11 the positive and negative impacts on health and wellbeing and on inequalities (including experience, the possible effects of the experience on individuals, individuals' susceptibility to different experiences, broad determinants of health and wellbeing such as crime and unemployment, the availability of services and resources to the population, and evidence of effectiveness in improving health and wellbeing)
- K12 the concepts of certainty and uncertainty and the effect of these on predictions about health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities, and why baseline assessments usually need to be used
- K13 policy and strategy appraisal and the need to maintain a dispassionate view of risks and causality in the face of what may be highly emotive and political debates
- K14 the assessment of the impact of public policy and legislation on health and wellbeing and the reduction of inequalities at local, national and global levels

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- K15 appropriate responses to verbal and written enquiries about health impact assessments
- K16 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
- K17 the services, policies and priorities of the worker's agency and how it relates to other agencies in the sector
- K18 the data storage and retrieval systems used by agencies working in health improvement
- K19 codes of practice and protocols about confidentiality and information sharing between agencies working in partnership
- K20 own role and responsibilities and from whom assistance and advice should be sought if necessary
- K21 reasoning processes to determine approach and methodology
- K22 the application of the principles of equality, diversity and antidiscriminatory practice to work
- K23 the need 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 how the worker has maintained their knowledge, skills and competence

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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: HWB1 Promotion of health and wellbeing and prevention of adverse effects

on health and wellbeing

Level: 4

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