

SFHPHS06

Assess risks to the population's health and wellbeing and apply this to practice



Overview

This standard covers the assessment of risks to the population's health and wellbeing and the application of this to practice. This contributes to developing quality and risk management within an evaluative culture.

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 maintain a current overview of:
 - P1.1 risks to the population's health and wellbeing
 - P1.2 evidence of effectively managing these risks
- P2 determine with stakeholders the perceived and actual risks to the population's health and wellbeing
- P3 realistically assess the scale, severity and frequency of the risk
- P4 make justifiable proposals based on research evidence as to those risks that are acceptable and those that need to be managed
- P5 determine with stakeholders whether current risk management strategies are sufficient to protect the public from risks to their health and wellbeing
- P6 develop and apply effective ways of educating the public about actual and perceived risks responding swiftly to public concern when there are scares and alarms
- P7 evaluate risk-management options for:
 - P7.1 evidence
 - P7.2 potential for improving health and wellbeing outcomes
 - P7.3 the impact they will have on health and wellbeing
 - P7.4 comparative costs and benefits and select those which are cost effective in relation to the population
- P8 formulate and agree with stakeholders targets, plans, outcomes and strategies for risk management
- P9 identify and take opportunities to inform and advise people on risks and associated risk management strategies consistent with legislative and organisational requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the analysis of health and wellbeing problems in terms of risk factors, including consideration of avoidable, relative and absolute risk
- K2 the concept of 'attributable risk' and its application in the identification of potentially effective health and healthcare services and interventions
- K3 how health and wellbeing may be threatened and how this can be explained to a wide range of audiences including how to exploit opportunities to address the population and transmit messages effectively
- K4 how surveillance of risks to the population's health and wellbeing helps to identify hazards particularly those in the environment
- K5 the benefits and limitations of epidemiological and toxicological research data
- K6 the principles of quantitative risk management and alternatives to it such as consensus
- K7 the importance of the context of the risk and the factors that may modify its impact
- K8 how to define appropriate risk management objectives
- K9 existing policies, infrastructure and programmes intended to manage risk across different sectors and how to identify options for managing such risk with other sectors and the community
- K10 what is acceptable risk and whose values define this (i.e. political, social, scientific, the community)
- K11 how to assess different types of risk and appraise the different strategies for managing these risks
- K12 strategies for informing and consulting with the public, including the timing of information
- K13 how to assess the level of public interest and concern
- K14 how to develop materials to inform stakeholders (e.g. insignificant risk and high public outrage, small but significant risk)
- K15 how to appraise risk education strategies that are currently in place
- K16 incidents in the light of current knowledge and practice about risk assessment and management

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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: Core 5 Quality

Level: 4

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