

Carry out comprehensive assessments of individuals' health and well-being in a custodial setting

Overview

This standard is about carrying out comprehensive assessments of individuals' health and well-being in a custodial setting. The standard covers the preparation to carry out the comprehensive assessment, taking accurate measurements and making observations and interpretations. It also covers reaching conclusions and making short-term plans for meeting the individual's health needs.

This standard applies to those members of the healthcare team who carry out comprehensive assessments of individuals' health and well-being after the initial screening has been undertaken at reception into the custodial setting.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. obtain information about the individual from any previous assessments
2. evaluate information and prioritise those individuals who are most likely to have the greatest health and well-being needs
3. establish any particular needs of the individual which will need to be taken into account during the assessment
4. act in ways which are consistent with statutory and organisational requirements and which minimise risks to the health, safety and security of:
 - 4.1 the individual
 - 4.2 yourself
 - 4.3 others
5. communicate in ways that can be understood by the individual, responding to their different needs, abilities and preferences
6. explain clearly to the individual:
 - 6.1 the role and responsibility of the healthcare team
 - 6.2 the information which will be entered in their records
 - 6.3 how the records will be stored and who will have the right of access to them
7. respect the individual's privacy, dignity, culture and beliefs and minimise any discomfort throughout the process
8. encourage the individual to explore and discuss:
 - 8.1 their current state of health and well-being
 - 8.2 past medical history
 - 8.3 current and previous medication and treatment
 - 8.4 current and previous use of substances
 - 8.5 factors that affect their health and well-being
9. validate the information obtained from the individual against that from other available sources
10. offer the individual clear information on
 - 10.1 their rights within the custodial and healthcare setting
 - 10.2 how being held in custody might affect their health and well-being
 - 10.3 how they can promote their health and well-being while in custody
 - 10.4 the health and other services available to them
11. observe the individual's behaviour and verbal and non-verbal communication for any further insights it may offer, particularly in relation to their mental health and well-being
12. summarise all the information obtained, record it accurately, promptly and concisely and structure it in line with organisational requirements
13. use appropriate health assessment tools correctly
14. encourage the individual to participate effectively, to ask questions, seek advice and express any concerns

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15. deal effectively with any challenging, abusive, aggressive or chaotic behaviour
16. take immediate action to promote the individual's health and well-being when it is at risk
17. obtain consent from the individual in a manner which encourages their co-operation
18. take accurate physiological measurements and make observations and interpretations about the individual, according to your level of training, knowledge and competence
19. ascertain information about the individual's health and well-being:
 - 19.1 given the information available
 - 19.2 in line with current legislation and good practice guidelines
 - 19.3 in line with anti-discriminatory practice
20. make short-term plans for meeting the individual's health needs and refer the individual to an appropriate person when this is necessary
21. summarise all the information obtained, record it accurately, promptly and concisely and structure it in line with organisational requirements
22. make complete and accurate reports relating to the future management of the individual's health and well-being within the custodial setting, drawing attention to issues on which others need to act
23. maintain the confidentiality of personal information in line with legal and organisational requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. current, relevant legislation, policies, procedures, codes of practice and practice advice for carrying out comprehensive assessment of individuals' health and well-being in a custodial setting
2. current, relevant legislation and organisational requirements in relation to race, diversity and human rights
3. current, relevant legislation and organisational requirements in relation to health and safety
4. the importance of obtaining information from previous assessments
5. how to evaluate and prioritise effectively
6. how to establish any particular needs of the individual and take these into account during the assessment
7. guidelines and tools for the identification, assessment, stratification and management of risk
8. possible risks to the health, safety and security of individuals, yourself and others
9. methods used to minimise risks to the health, safety and security of individuals, yourself and others
10. the ways in which people communicate by their behaviour, and how different forms of behaviour can be interpreted
11. roles and responsibilities of the healthcare team
12. the importance of respecting individuals' privacy, dignity, culture and beliefs
13. how to encourage individuals to provide information about their health and well-being and participate effectively in their assessments
14. the importance of validating the information obtained from individuals against that from other available sources, and how to do so
15. individuals' rights within the custodial and healthcare setting
16. the effects of being held in custody on individuals' health and well-being
17. how to promote individuals' health and well-being while in custody
18. health and other services available to individuals while in custody
19. common mental health problems that might be encountered in the custodial setting, and how these problems can affect individuals' behaviour, communication and understanding of what is happening
20. different health assessment tools, how to use them correctly and which ones to use
21. the purpose of obtaining the fullest possible information about:
 - 21.1 individuals' current mental and physical health
 - 21.2 past medical history

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- 21.3 current and previous medication and treatment
- 21.4 current and previous uses of substances
- 21.5 social factors that affect their health and well-being
- 22. how to identify individuals' mental health and well-being to a sufficient level of detail to recognise when there are problems and seek assistance
- 23. how to identify individuals' physical health and well-being to a sufficient level of detail to recognise when there are problems and seek assistance
- 24. how to deal with challenging, abusive, aggressive or chaotic behaviour
- 25. the nature and impact of lifestyle, biological and environmental factors on health and well-being
- 26. the purpose and methods of taking accurate physiological measurements of individuals, and how to interpret these appropriately
- 27. the possible treatment and management approaches that may be used to address mental health problems and the potential effect of these on individuals and their mental health
- 28. the meaning of informed consent and the legal requirements in relation to this
- 29. how to bring together and interpret all of the information obtained about an individual and decide the subsequent action which may be necessary given their health and well-being, their health needs and any risks identified
- 30. how to interpret the information provided by individuals and feed this into the assessment process
- 31. the effect of the custodial environment on individuals' mental health and the particular effect it might have on existing mental health problems
- 32. the occasions when it will be necessary to call for immediate support, medical, security or management
- 33. how to structure assessment records in line with organisational requirements
- 34. who has the right to access information held on medical records and reports
- 35. the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of personal information
- 36. how to determine the quality and extent of information one needs to provide to others
- 37. the types of documentation which must be completed and how to complete it correctly

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