SFHAB5
Assess and act upon immediate risk of danger to substance users

Overview

For this standard you will need to assess the immediate risk of danger to individuals who have used substances, act upon the immediate risk of danger and support the individual once the immediate risk of danger has passed.

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 ascertain any signs of immediate risk of danger
P2 request further support and assistance, as required, without delay
P3 ascertain your own and any person near the individual's personal safety
P4 make the individual aware that you are available and willing to help
P5 obtain personal details from the individual or any person near the individual who has used the substance
P6 obtain information on the substance used from the individual or any person near the individual who has used the substance
P7 encourage the individual to describe any pain or discomfort they may be experiencing
P8 act upon the immediate risks to danger consistent with agency policies and procedures and your own role
P9 request further support and assistance, if required, without delay
P10 ensure your own personal safety and of any other person near the individual
P11 take actions which are appropriate to the substance used and the effect it has had on the individual
P12 take steps to calm the individual, if the individual is in an agitated state, if safe to do so
P13 take immediate steps to revive the individual, if the individual seems to be in a withdrawn state
P14 administer first aid, if safe to do so
P15 interact with the individual in a manner which recognises their needs and rights
P16 make the individual as comfortable as possible and only move the individual if necessary for their safety
P17 make the environment as safe as possible and remove all dangerous substances and materials
P18 make the individual aware that you are available and willing to help
P19 interact with the individual in a manner which recognises their needs and rights
P20 support the individual to enable them to meet their needs
P21 encourage the individual to recognise the consequences of the episode
P22 encourage the individual to seek further support and assistance
P23 accurately record all information and report to the appropriate person in the required format
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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 legal and organisational requirements and policies requirements relevant to the functions being carried out
K2 legal requirements relevant to the functions being carried out
K3 the partner agencies in the local area
K4 the organisation's policies and procedures in dealing with risk of danger to individuals
K5 how to communicate effectively in a range of different settings
K6 how to calm individuals who have used substances
K7 how to calm other people in the immediate vicinity
K8 when and how to move an individual to make them comfortable
K9 when and how to administer first aid to individuals
K10 when to call the emergency services
K11 the importance of gathering full and accurate information and how to do so
K12 how to report accurately
K13 the importance of stating any gaps in information or assumptions made
K14 how to recognise and deal with immediate risk of danger to individuals who have used substances
K15 the range of different substances and their effects
K16 the appropriate actions / options available when the immediate risk of danger has passed
K17 the rights of individuals with whom you come into contact
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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
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