

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.

SFHAB5

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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- P13 take immediate steps to revive the individual, if the individual seems to be in a withdrawn state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

SFHAB5

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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

SFHAB5

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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

SFHAB5

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Suite	Drugs and Alcohol; Drugs and Alcohol
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