Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults in Mental Health: A CCG Perspective

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Strengthening accountability...

• “Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the Reformed NHS: Accountability and Assurance Framework”
• Published March 2013
• Sets out responsibilities for new commissioning structures
Adult Safeguarding...

- Although the framework focuses on the statutory requirements to safeguard children, the same key principles will apply in relation to arrangements to safeguard adults.
- The proposed Care and Support Bill sets out requirements comparable to safeguarding children, including membership of Safeguarding Adults Boards.
- The Francis report highlights the need to end decades of complacency about poor care, by detecting and exposing unacceptable care quickly and ensuring that the system takes real responsibility for fixing problems urgently and effectively.
CCG Authorisation...

• CCGs are required to:
  – establish appropriate systems for safeguarding
  – train staff in recognising and reporting safeguarding issues
  – Ensure a clear line of accountability for safeguarding is reflected in CCG governance arrangements
  – have arrangements in place to co-operate with the local authority in the operation of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board.
  – have a safeguarding adults lead and a lead for the Mental Capacity Act, supported by the relevant policies and training
CCG Authorisation...

• A CCGs leadership arrangements for adult safeguarding need to include responsibility for ensuring that the CCG commissions safe services for those in vulnerable situations, including effective systems for responding to abuse and neglect of adults and effective interagency working with local authorities, the police and third sector organisations.

• CCG leads for safeguarding adults need to have a broad knowledge of healthcare for older people, people with dementia, people with learning disabilities and people with mental health conditions.
Mental Health and safeguarding...

- Mental illness accounts for 23% of the total burden of disease, but it receives only 13% of NHS health expenditure*

- Abuse of Vulnerable Adults (AVA 2012/13)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Total alerts</th>
<th>Mental Health</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>of which Dementia</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aged 18 - 64</td>
<td>67,560</td>
<td>16,985</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aged 65 - 74</td>
<td>19,730</td>
<td>4,895</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aged 75 - 84</td>
<td>36,790</td>
<td>9,690</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6,635</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aged 85 and over</td>
<td>44,630</td>
<td>9,325</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6,970</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adults with mental health needs...

• BBC News/Community Care (16th October):
  – Mental health crisis services in England are “unsafe” and delivering substandard care to acutely unwell adults and children
  – the NHS has shut more than 1,700 beds in two years
  – psychiatric wards are running occupancy levels of more than 100%, meaning some patients are being sent to private hospitals miles from home
  – care and support minister Norman Lamb said he was determined to end the “institutional bias in the NHS against mental health...beds must be available if patients need them”
Adults with mental health needs...

• Priority areas:
  – Primary care mental health needs: anxiety and depression, access to psychological therapies...
  – Secondary care mental health needs: severe and enduring mental health problems, recovery, community response, stigma...
  – Older people: dementia, mental capacity, care homes...most vulnerable group?

...as victims and perpetrators of abuse...
Themes...

• Mental health as a risk factor in child protection; ‘toxic trio’ of mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse
• Learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews
• Significant issues in the care home sector
  – CQC appoints social care chief Andrea Sutcliffe,
  – consulting on CCTV in care homes
• Winterbourne View
Patient at the centre...

• Francis report:
  – The patients must be the first priority in all of what the NHS does. Within available resources, they must receive effective services from caring, compassionate and committed staff, working within a common culture, and they must be protected from avoidable harm and any deprivation of their basic rights (recs 3 – 8)
Patient at the centre...

• No Secrets review (2009):
  – Safeguarding requires empowerment/the ‘victim’s’ voice needs to be heard.
  – Empowerment is everybody’s business, but safeguarding decisions are not.
  – Safeguarding Adults is not like Child Protection.
  – The participation/representation of people who lack capacity is also important.
Making safeguarding personal...

- Empowering people - personalised information and advice
- Building confidence, assertiveness, self esteem and respect
- Supported decision making
- Peer support
- Dealing with risk and problems when employing personal assistants
- Family group conferences
Making safeguarding personal...

- Therapeutic and counselling support
- Brief interventions
- Advocacy
- Mediation and conflict resolution
- Support for people who have caused harm or abuse
- Restorative justice
Involving service users...

- Partner organisations build service user involvement into the design and delivery of safeguarding services (ADASS, 2005)
- Feedback is sought from all individual service users and carers about the delivery and outcomes of safeguarding work for them (ADASS, 2005)
- Your service and procedures drive engagement with people and discusses with them the outcomes that they want at the beginning, middle and end of the process (ADASS, 2013)
Learning from incidents...

- Safeguarding alerts
- Clinical incidents
- Serious incidents
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Serious Case Reviews
- Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Mental Health Homicide Inquiries
Learning from incidents...

• Deprivation of Liberty vs. Mental Health Act
• Application of Mental Capacity Act – best interests decision making, consent, least restrictive option, empowerment, etc.
• Failure of healthcare professionals to confirm caring responsibilities
• Implementation of Dementia Strategy
• The role of GPs – adequacy of referrals
• Mental Health Trusts – response to referrals
Learning from incidents...

- Absence of effective prevention and early warning systems
- Neglect and abuse not recognised
- Lack of transparency and a lack of multi-agency investigation
- Safeguarding is seen as the responsibility of others
- Patients and carers' voices are not heard
Thanks for listening...

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