Safeguarding
Current Awareness Bulletin
March 2018

A number of other bulletins are also available – please contact the Academy Library for further details.

If you would like to receive these bulletins on a regular basis please contact the library.

For any references where there is a link to the full text please use your NHS Athens username & password to access.

If you would like any of the full references from those that do not have links we will source them for you.

Contact us: Academy Library 824897/98
Email: ruh-tr.library@nhs.ne
Title: Duty of candour.

Citation: Nurse Prescribing; Feb 2018; vol. 16 (no. 2); p. 53-53
Author(s): Robertson, Deborah

Title: Safeguarding vulnerable adults.

Citation: British Journal of Nursing; Jan 2018; vol. 27 (no. 1); p. 67-67
Author(s): Foster, Sam

Abstract: The article discusses the safeguarding of vulnerable adults in British medical care in relation to the British Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS). Topics include oversight role of the British agency Care Quality Commission (CQC), decision-making in medical care organisations, and practices in person-centred care.


Citation: Violence Against Women; Mar 2018; vol. 24 (no. 4); p. 452-476
Author(s): Collins, Elizabeth A.; Cody, Anna M.; McDonald, Shelby Elaine; Nicotera, Nicole; Ascione, Frank R.; Williams, James Herbert

Abstract: This study explores the intersection of intimate partner violence (IPV) and animal cruelty in an ethnically diverse sample of 103 pet-owning IPV survivors recruited from community-based domestic violence programs. Template analysis revealed five themes: (a) Animal Maltreatment by Partner as a Tactic of Coercive Power and Control, (b) Animal Maltreatment by Partner as Discipline or Punishment of Pet, (c) Animal Maltreatment by Children, (d) Emotional and Psychological Impact of Animal Maltreatment Exposure, and (e) Pets as an Obstacle to Effective Safety Planning. Results demonstrate the potential impact of animal maltreatment exposure on women and child IPV survivors’ health and safety.

Title: Best Interests Assessor Role: An Opportunity or a ‘Dead End’ for Adult Social Workers?

Citation: Practice (09503153); Apr 2018; vol. 30 (no. 2); p. 83-98
Author(s): Hubbard, Rachel

Abstract: This opinion article explores the significance of the Best Interests Assessor role in England and Wales for social workers working with adults. It considers the challenges of the role following the Supreme Court’s Cheshire West (2014) judgement and the implications for BIAs of the Law Commission’s 2017 plans for replacing DoLS with the ‘Liberty Protection Safeguards’. The author explains why they consider the BIA role to be a valuable one for the status of adult social work as well as for people who may lack capacity to uphold their human rights, with some
reservations about the risk of diluting the safeguards the current role represents for those vulnerable people.

Title: "Adults at risk": "vulnerability" by any other name?

Citation: Journal of Adult Protection; Jan 2018; vol. 20 (no. 1); p. 47-58
Author(s): Pritchard-Jones, Laura

Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to explore and critique the conceptual and terminological shift – particularly from "vulnerability" to "adult at risk" – in adult safeguarding under the Care Act 2014 and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Design/methodology/approach: The paper compares the notion of the vulnerable adult in safeguarding, with the notion of an adult at risk under the Care Act 2014 and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and questions to what extent such a shift addresses existing criticisms of "vulnerability".

Findings: The paper criticises the notion of the "vulnerable adult" for perpetuating the stigma associated with an impairment or disability, and for the types of legal and policy responses deemed appropriate under such an understanding of vulnerability. While efforts to replace the term "vulnerable adult" with "adult at risk" are, to some extent, to be welcomed, "adult at risk" under the legislation relies on the same characteristics for which the "vulnerable adult" has been criticised. Nevertheless, the safeguarding provisions under the two Acts have made some strides forward in comparison to their legal and policy predecessors and the notion of the "vulnerable adult".

Originality/value: This paper's originality and value lie in its scrutiny of the notion of "vulnerability" in adult safeguarding, in comparison to the newer terminology of an "adult at risk", whilst also suggesting that in important respects – in relation to the interventions deemed appropriate where an adult is perceived to be at risk – the two pieces of legislation are a marked improvement on their predecessors. It also offers some thoughts as to how criticisms of the new legislation may be overcome.

Title: Making Safeguarding Personal: progress of English local authorities.

Citation: Journal of Adult Protection; Jan 2018; vol. 20 (no. 1); p. 59-68
Author(s): Briggs, Mike; Cooper, Adi

Purpose: The paper reports on the findings of a survey of 115 (76 per cent) of English local authorities in 2016 which compared progress on the implementation of the Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) approach in local authorities through their Adult Social Care departments and in relation to their area Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs) and partner organisations. The purpose of this paper is to evaluate the survey in relation to personalised social care and its impact on organisations, their staff and service users, and conclude with wider implications and recommendations for further work.

Design/methodology/approach: A series of guided interviews were conducted with safeguarding leads from a sample comprising of 115 (76 per cent) of English local authorities during May and June 2016. The sample was randomly picked and balanced to give a fair representation of the different types of councils. The interviews were conducted by a team of five people. All interviewers had in-depth experience of adult safeguarding and were currently practicing
independent chairs of SABs. The interviewers followed a prepared schedule consisting of a mixture of open and closed questions. All interviews were held over the phone and averaged one-hour duration.

**Findings:** The results pointed to the impression that the majority of local authorities had completed the first step of introducing MSP, i.e. they had trained their workers and modified their systems. Most local authorities were moving into the next phase of embedding user-focussed work into their practice and culture, and were at various points along that journey. However, most had still to engage partner organisations beyond a mere acceptance of MSP as “a good thing”.

**Research limitations/implications:** The research has wide ranging implications for organisations and their workers in the field of adult safeguarding based on its findings. Its limitations are that only organisational leaders and managers were interviewed, although reference is extensively made to initiatives that engage service users. The authors acknowledged the possible bias of interviewees when judging the performance of their own service and attempted to moderate their views in the final report.

**Practical implications:** The report references many practical implications to improve the practice of adult safeguarding in an attempt to make it more person-centred. Examples of good practice are given and recommendations are made to organisations.

**Social implications:** It is recognised that there are many people who may be at risk of harm through their environmental, personal, age or disability-related situations. In improving the way that services respond to their needs, they will be made to feel safer and their lives enhanced.

**Originality/value:** This original research follows up previous research in the preceding year. It is the widest ranging in its coverage of 76 per cent of English local authorities. Its value is that it measures progress towards full implementation of MSP; reports information and views from safeguarding leaders; and makes 20 recommendations to improve the implementation of MSP within local authorities, SABs and their partners.

**Sources Used:**
The following databases are used in the creation of this bulletin: Amed, British Nursing Index, Cinahl & Medline.

**Disclaimer**
The results of your literature search are based on the request that you made, and consist of a list of references, some with abstracts. Royal United Hospital Bath Healthcare Library will endeavour to use the best, most appropriate and most recent sources available to it, but accepts no liability for the information retrieved, which is subject to the content and accuracy of databases, and the limitations of the search process. The library assumes no liability for the interpretation or application of these results, which are not intended to provide advice or recommendations on patient care.