
Risk Decision-Making: Working with risk and implementing positive risk-taking

A Handbook & CD-Rom

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Working with Risk is the responsibility of individual staff, multidisciplinary teams, & the organisation management.



Good decisions are collaborative

Person-centred practice enables service users to assume their own responsibilities.

Content includes:

- *A new risk training strategy*
- *Principles into practice*
- *Person-centred practice*
- *Working with risk*
- *Positive risk-taking*
- *Risk decision-making*
- *Organisation culture*
- *Suicide & self-harm*

- *Risk resources include: a series of tools to guide & capture best practice*

A New Resource:

- Updating the Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health Clinical Risk Management Tool (2000) & Pavilion Working with Risk

Manuals (2007)

- These tools and checklists are compatible for using with all other electronic systems... this is about implementing practice
- Places a specific focus on Risk Decision-Making
- Taking a Bureaucracy-Busting approach to achieving best practice

A unique resource for helping senior managers to support implementation of best practice

Working with Risk ~ what is it really all about?

Refocusing our approach to training in order to promote genuine learning:

- Provides a strategy for decreasing the wasteful use of finite resources
- The best place for learning is within teams, but it is also the responsibility of every individual and the organization management

Putting the person truly at the centre requires a change of everyone's mindset:

- One of the vital challenges of personalisation is to assess and manage risks with people, not to do it to people
- Safety is everyone's responsibility, but we need to support people to articulate what risk means to them

Assessing & managing risk needs a process and clear principles:

- A resource that clearly articulates the Department of Health *Principles of Best Practice*
- Providing checklists of best practice for prompting and guiding practitioners

Taking risks for positive outcomes:

- Defining the concept and identifying the barriers to best practice
- Getting the language of good practice right: positive outcomes not positive risk

Risk decisions need to be defensible rather than defensive:

- A good decision is clearly reasoned
- Reviewing the many influences on risk decision-making
- Providing a checklist of best practice and a format for documenting risk decisions

A risk averse organization is no guarantee of safe practice:

- Is best practice supported by the culture or happening despite the culture?
- Managerial decision-makers and practitioner decision-makers need to work closer together

Working with suicide & self-harm:

- Providing background information and checklists of risk factors
- Developing the confidence to work with these challenging risk issues
- Working with people not just assessing them
- Challenging some of the myths

Use of tools:

- The role of tools are to guide, support and capture
- Risk decision-making tools in the form of checklists and formats
- Moving away from the tick-box approach to risk assessment... to a focus on quality narrative