

Precision Surgery Clinic Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

This safeguarding policy outlines our commitment to protecting patients from harm, abuse, and neglect. It provides guidance for staff, patients, and their families on identifying and managing safeguarding risks.

2. Definitions

Safeguarding: Protecting a person's health, well-being, and human rights, enabling them to live free from harm, abuse, and neglect.

Vulnerable Groups: Patients who are particularly at risk, including vulnerable adults, children, those with learning disabilities, cognitive impairment, serious mental health conditions, and others1.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Clinic Staff: All staff members are responsible for identifying and managing safeguarding risks. They should be aware of the signs of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Clinic Manager: The manager oversees the implementation of this policy and ensures staff receive appropriate training.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Appointed staff member responsible for coordinating safeguarding efforts and acting as a point of contact for concerns.

Information Sharing: Staff must share relevant information promptly and appropriately to safeguard patients.

4. Key Procedures

Risk Assessment: Regularly assess patients for safeguarding risks during consultations.

Information Sharing: Share relevant information with other healthcare providers, social services, and law enforcement when necessary.

Patient Consent: Obtain informed consent for sharing information, unless it is unsafe or inappropriate to do so.

Training: Provide ongoing training to staff on safeguarding procedures.

Record Keeping: Maintain accurate and secure records related to safeguarding concerns.

5. Reporting Concerns

Internal Reporting: Staff should report safeguarding concerns to the DSL or clinic manager.

External Reporting: Report serious concerns to local safeguarding authorities or the police.

6. Confidentiality

Balancing Act: Balance patient confidentiality with the need to protect patients from harm.

Consent: Obtain patient consent for sharing information, except in emergencies or when consent is not possible.

7. Review and Updates

Regular Review: Review this policy annually or as needed.

Updates: Keep the policy up-to-date with changes in legislation or best practices.

8. Conclusion

The Precision Surgery Clinic is committed to safeguarding patients. By following this policy, we aim to create a safe and supportive environment for all.

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