

Acuity Safeguarding Policy & Procedure

1 Aim

This policy and procedure is for anyone working for Acuity Research & Practice. It equips you with the information you need regarding what safeguarding is and what actions to take if you suspect or are told about abuse and what will happen next.

2 Definition

Safeguarding can be defined as measures to protect people's health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect (Care Quality Commission, 2018).

3 Roles of Responsibility

While it is not our job to establish whether or not abuse is taking place, it IS our responsibility to report any concerns we have over the welfare of children, young people, or adults. This duty extends to the identification of abuse, as well as allegations brought to the attention of Acuity staff by a member of the public/community.

Acuity are not expected to investigate suspicions or concerns - other agencies are trained to do this.

4 Reporting a safeguarding issue

In the event of having a concern about a child or adult at risk, the primary concern is to ensure that you record relevant information. Acuity staff or Associates should then make their line manager aware of the issue. They (or their line manager, as agreed) should then, as quickly as possible, contact the (social services) Safeguarding Team at the appropriate local authority. If it believed a criminal offence has occurred, contact the Police on 101. Alternatively, phone 999 if a crime is being committed or someone is in immediate danger.

5 References and further information

Care Quality Commission (2018) Safeguarding People. Available online at: <http://www.cqc.org.uk/what-we-do/how-we-do-our-job/safeguarding-people> Date Accessed: 25 November 2021.

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