



BUPA CROMWELL HOSPITAL 2009

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND THE MONITOR DECLARATION

Background:

Following the Care Quality Commission (CQC) review into safeguarding children, Monitor requested that each NHS Trust Board issue a declaration on their web site to confirm the Trust's compliance with the five key areas relating to safeguarding children. The Bupa Cromwell Hospital follows the NHS Guidelines regarding Safeguarding Children even though it is an Independent Organisation. Following a letter from Professor Trish Morris-Thompson, Chief Nurse- NHS London, dated November 2009, a review took place of the Bupa Cromwell Hospital declaration. Bupa Cromwell Hospital organisation works hard to ensure that all patients including children are cared for in a safe, secure and caring environment.

As a result a number of safeguarding children arrangements are in place. The assurance information provided in this letter indicates that the Bupa Cromwell Hospital is compliant in the five areas detailed below:

1. Criminal Records Bureau Checks

The Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) is an executive agency of the Home Office, which runs a checking service on the confidential and criminal records of those applying to work with children and vulnerable adults, where staff are involved in regularly caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of them.

All Staff members within the organisation have an up to date CRB check which is updated every three years. All Nursing Staff who have 'direct patient contact' have an 'enhanced CRB' check which is checked every three years; this includes all Paediatric Staff who have an 'Enhanced CRB' check which is updated every three years.

2. Child Protection Policies And Systems

Bupa Cromwell Hospital Child Protection Policy and Procedures was last updated in July 2009. This is available to every member of staff both on hard copy on the Paediatric areas and on the intranet system.

A Safeguarding Children Flow chart on 'What To Do If You Are Concerned About a Child' is in every department within the hospital and is explained to all new members of staff on induction within the presentation regarding 'Safeguarding Children'. All staff have knowledge of the Flow Chart and all the Named Personnel to contact if ever concerned.

The organisation has implemented a process to follow when children do not attend booked out-patient appointments. This is to ensure their care and ultimately their health is not affected in anyway.

A flagging system is in place within the current hospital computerised information system to make staff aware of any safeguarding concerns.

All Bupa Cromwell Hospital Child Protection policies and systems are up to date and robust and are reviewed on a regular basis, ultimately by the Executive Team. The last review occurred in September 2009 and the next review is scheduled for September 2011. Any changes required in line with national guidance will be made as required.

3. Safeguarding children training

As it states in Working Together (2006) guidance notes, that all health care organisations have a duty under the Children Act (2004) to promote the welfare and safety of children. Chief Executives are required in law to enable staff to meet these requirements.

It states,

"All staff working with children should attend training in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and should have regular updates as part of any post-registration educational programme. Employers have a responsibility to ensure that all staff, including administrative staff, are given opportunities to attend local course in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, or to ensure that safeguarding is provided with in the team".

The Safeguarding Children and Young People, Roles and Competencies for Health Care Staff (Inter-Collegiate Document, April 2006), was produced by the Royal Colleges and professional organizations and clarifies the competency levels required by all health staff to safeguard children. It supplements the information set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2006, and has been developed with advice from Skills for Health. The Chief Medical and Nursing Officers recommended this document as a means of supporting PCTs, NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts in meeting their duty to make arrangements to safeguard children and promote their welfare set out in section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

This Inter-Collegiate Document provides a generic training competency framework, classifying training into different levels based on complexity and the target audience, with 6 levels identified, dependant on staff roles relating to safeguarding. This defines "eligible staff" as all staff working in health care settings: frontline staff including administrative staff and managers.

All eligible staff have undertaken relevant safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date.

Bupa Cromwell Hospital has a robust training strategy in place with regard to delivering Safeguarding Children training. Hospital Induction Training, which is mandatory for all staff, includes a presentation by the Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children

- 80 % of all required staff have received level one training within the last twelve months - the target is 80%
- 75% of all required staff have received level two training within the last twelve months - the target is 80%. In order to increase the Bupa Cromwell Hospital's ability to complete Level 2 training, further training sessions have been organised. All required staff are informed of the requirements to meet the target 80%; this is to be achieved within Q4 of 2010.
- Level three training for all required staff will commence in January 2010. The target is 80%

The last training review occurred in December 2010 and will be reviewed quarterly.

4. Named professionals.

The Organisation has a Named Nurse Elle Cooke and Named Doctor Dr Michael Markiewicz who lead on issues in relation to Safeguarding Children. They are clear about their role, have sufficient time and receive relevant support, and training, to undertake their roles, which includes close contact with other social and health care organisations. There are Named Deputies who will offer support and be the named contacts if either 1st Named professionals are on leave and, they also ensure that sufficient time and support can be obtained to carry out the appropriate roles and responsibilities of all parties-including attending meetings/training sessions.

5. Board Level Executive Lead.

Sharon Burton is the Executive Level Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Adults at the Bupa Cromwell Hospital.

The Executive Team takes the issue of safeguarding extremely seriously and receives an annual report on safeguarding children issues. The next Annual Report will be presented to the Executive Team in January 2010. The organisation has an audit programme to ensure that safeguarding systems and processes are working. This is discussed with the Local Safeguarding Children Board every quarter.

Sharon Burton
General Manager and Acting Chief Nurse
Named Nurse at Executive / Board Level-Safeguarding Children

Elle Cooke
Senior Sister-Paediatrics
Named Nurse- Safeguarding Children

Dr Michael Markiewicz
Consultant Paediatrician
Named Doctor-Safeguarding Children