

Self-Neglect & Adult Safeguarding

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Responding to Self-Neglect & Hoarding

Wednesday 8th November 2023

Virtual Conference



Chair and Speakers include:

Suzy Braye OBE

Emerita Professor of Social Work

University of Sussex

Wendy Proctor

Designated Nurse Adult Safeguarding

North East North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Cath Erine

Adult Safeguarding Board Manager

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

Jo Cooke

Director

Hoarding Disorders UK Cic

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Self-Neglect & Adult Safeguarding

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The Covid-19 pandemic has created new levels of isolation and loneliness for people increasing the risk of self-neglect. Self-neglect can be a complex and challenging issue for practitioners because of the need to find the balance between respecting a person's autonomy and fulfilling a duty to protect the adult's health and well-being.

"The most common type of risk in Section 42 enquiries that concluded in the year was Neglect and Acts of Omission, which accounted for 31% of risks, and the most common location of the risk was the person's own home at 48%."

NHS Digital August 2022

"Self-neglect is used to describe a wide range of behaviours which relate to neglect to care for one's own personal hygiene, health or surroundings. The person themselves may not recognise the impact of their behaviour or may not use the same terminology to describe their own situation. Ultimately, self-neglect becomes a cause for concern where there are serious risks identified to an individual's health, wellbeing or lifestyle. Self-neglect may take the form of a neglect of nutrition or hydration, or behaviours such as hoarding... Practitioners should review each experience on a case by case basis and remain curious to whether incidents are one-off or multiple, affects the people around an individual, and whether there are any patterns of harm that may be an indication of other types of abuse or poor mental health. Some of these patterns of harm may also indicate a case of organisational abuse if instances of poor care are recurring or seem to affect multiple people in an organisation. It is important to share information with system partners if this is suspected, particularly in the CCG or ICS in future and the CQC where this is relevant."

Revisiting Safeguarding Practice Guidance Department of Health and Social Care January 2022

"Self-neglect is often hidden from view and can lead to life changing social and health concerns which can sometimes be fatal."

Professor Michael Preston-Shoot, Professor Emeritus at Bedfordshire University

"Self-neglect covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surrounding and includes behaviour such as hoarding. It is important to consider capacity when self-neglect is suspected. Also consider how it may impact on other family members and whether this gives rise to a safeguarding concern."

NHS England

"There were two dominant narratives about self-neglect. The first narrative concerned the early identification by volunteers of 'clinically extremely vulnerable' people that they were supporting. Some people had care and support needs and were known to adult social care services, others either did not care and support needs but were at risk of abuse or neglect or they were not considered to have been at risk of abuse or neglect. The second predominant narrative was the increasing difficulties that practitioners were experiencing in getting people who were self-neglecting to engage with them during the pandemic; the pandemic was given as an additional reason as to why people were unable to communicate with professionals. Health partners were reported as identifying increased numbers of patients who had been 'hidden' during lockdown and then presented with more acute self-neglect when they presented at the health setting following the easing of lockdown."

Covid-19 Adult Safeguarding Insight Project - Second Report (July 2021) Local Government Association

This conference which features extended interactive sessions focuses on the difficult issue of self neglect and adult safeguarding and includes an extended focus on hoarding. Through national updates, practical case studies and extended interactive group work the conference will cover self-neglect, meeting the statutory safeguarding guidance, safeguarding people who self-neglect: the evidence and what works, developing guidance for professionals when dealing with self-neglect and resistance to engage with services, an extended session on hoarding, and an extended session on dealing with the underlying causes of self-neglect working in partnership with people who are self-neglecting in a multidisciplinary way.

The conference will provide an opportunity to:

- Understand the latest evidence about what works in managing self-neglect
- Learn and reflect on serious case reviews involving self-neglect
- Managing risk and support a strengths based way of working to work together to identify meaningful solutions
- Understand hoarding behaviour and the psychological / mental health issues associated with Hoarding
- Share experiences and learning with other colleagues around working on difficult self-neglect cases through interactive facilitated group work
- Self assess and improve your local guidance for professionals when dealing with self-neglect and resistance to engage with services
- Reflect on professional decision making with regard to capacity and unwise decisions vs unacceptable risk?
- Explore responses to hoarding and how this fits with in the self-neglect safeguarding response
- Understand issues of mental capacity, choice and autonomy when responding to self-neglect concerns and resistance to service engagement
- Supports CPD professional development and acts as revalidation evidence. This course provides 5 Hrs training for CPD subject to peer group approval for revalidation purposes

10.00 Chair's Introduction & Welcome EXTENDED SESSION: Safeguarding people who self-neglect: what works?

Suzy Braye OBE

Emerita Professor of Social Work
University of Sussex

This session will draw on evidence from the presenter's research (with David Orr and Michael Preston-Shoot) into effective practice in self-neglect; it will consider:

- the range and scope of self-neglect work nationally
- the challenges experienced in practice
- what goes wrong – findings from safeguarding adult reviews in cases of self-neglect
- what goes right - service users' and practitioners' perspectives on approaches that support positive outcomes
- effective interagency working in self-neglect

11.00 EXTENDED SESSION: Self Neglect & Covid-19

Wendy Proctor

Designated Nurse Adult Safeguarding
North East North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

- the impact of the pandemic on Self Neglect
- partnership working across health and social care
- identification of self-neglect
- managing risk and supporting a strengths based way of working to work together to identify meaningful solutions
- managing resistance to engage with services
- outreach to clinically vulnerable resident
- examples of good practice

11.45 *Comfort Break and Virtual Networking*

12.00 EXTENDED INTERACTIVE SESSION: Hoarding and safeguarding: Professional and practice issues

Stuart Whomsley

Co-Author BPS A Psychological Perspective on Hoarding
Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Trust

- hoarding and risk issues relating to hoarding
 - preventing the escalation of hoarding
 - supporting a person with hoarding behaviour to address underlying cases of hoarding
 - supporting the person to change hoarding behaviours
 - our experience and lessons from a serious case review
- This session includes delegate interactive engagement***

12.55 Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews involving Self-Neglect

Professor Michael Preston-Shoot

Emeritus Professor of Social Work
University of Bedfordshire

- learning from a range of 'self-neglect' SAR reviews
- what has changed in practice at practitioner level and at Safeguarding Board level as a result of learning from SARs on 'self-neglect'?
- case studies demonstrating improvement

13.25 *Lunch Break and Virtual Networking*

13.55 Hoarding: A Lived Experience Perspective

Mandi Simms

Trustee
HoardingUK

- how can we better support people who demonstrate hoarding behaviour?

14.15 Understanding Hoarding Behaviour

Jo Cooke

Director
Hoarding Disorders UK Cic

- understanding hoarding disorder
- intervention, identification and support
- understanding the psychological/mental health issues associated with Hoarding

14.45 EXTENDED SESSION: Issues of Mental Capacity, Choice and Autonomy when responding to self-neglect concerns and resistance to service engagement

Speaker to be announced

- unwise decisions vs unacceptable risk?
- mental capacity assessments in self-neglect cases
- balancing individual rights to self-determination with our statutory duties to manage risk and safeguard adults who have needs for care and support
- whose decision is it anyway?

15.30 *Comfort Break and Virtual Networking*

15.45 EXTENDED INTERACTIVE SESSION: Developing shared professional understandings of self-neglect and multi-agency interventions

Cath Erine

Adult Safeguarding Board Manager
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

This session will use small group work to explore how the different agencies who may be involved in self-neglect cases could change the way they work together to improve outcomes for people who self-neglect. Using findings from the research so far, participants will have the opportunity to contribute ideas and to reflect on their own practice in working alongside other agencies, in this complex area of work.

This session includes small breakout groups

16.45 *Closing Remarks, followed by Close*

There will be time after each speaker session for Questions and Answers

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Venue

This is a virtual conference on Zoom with interactive breakouts and a dedicated landing page with resources available for three months after the conference.

Date

 Wednesday 8th November 2023

Conference Fee

- £295 + VAT (£354.00) for NHS, Social care, private healthcare organisations and universities.
- £250 + VAT (£300.00) for voluntary sector / charities.
- £495 + VAT (£594.00) for commercial organisations.

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If you are interested in exhibiting at this event, please contact Carolyn Goodbody on 01932 429933, or email carolyn@hc-uk.org.uk

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