

Unit 4222-611 Carry out initial assessments to identify and prioritise the needs of substance misusers (ASM11)

Level: 3
Credit value: 5
UAN: D/601/0662

Unit aim

This unit is for those who need to refer individuals with less complex needs directly to less structured drug, alcohol or substance misuse services (such as drop-in advice services) and identify when an individual has more complex needs which require referral to a comprehensive substance misuse assessment.

Learning outcomes

There are **four** learning outcomes to this unit. The learner will:

1. Understand the range of different substances and their effects
2. Be able to evaluate individuals' substance misuse and understanding of substance misuse services
3. Be able to assess individuals' needs and appropriate interventions
4. Be able to make referrals to substance misuse services

Guided learning hours

It is recommended that **30** hours should be allocated for this unit, although patterns of delivery are likely to vary.

Details of the relationship between the unit and relevant national standards

This unit is linked to the Skills for Health/DANOS national occupational standard:

AF2 Carry out assessment to identify and prioritise needs. This also appears in Health and Social Care Standards as HSC339.

Support of the unit by a sector or other appropriate body

This unit is endorsed by Skills for Health.

Assessment

Any skills-based element within the unit must be assessed within the workplace or using workplace evidence.

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Assessment Criteria

Outcome 1 Understand the range of different substances and their effects

The learner can:

1. identify the range of different substances and their effects
2. identify different indications of substance misuse
3. demonstrate ways of keeping knowledge about substances and indications of substance misuse up to date
4. explain the jargon used by substance misusers in the locality.

Outcome 2 Be able to evaluate individuals' substance misuse and understanding of substance misuse services

The learner can:

1. explain why the assessment of individuals should be carried out promptly
2. obtain information from the individual and if applicable, from the referring agency, in line with protocols
3. carry out the assessment in line with locally agreed criteria and using standardised documentation
4. assess the individual's understanding of services available and readiness to engage in a treatment programme
5. manage challenging, abusive, aggressive or chaotic behaviour
6. assess the risks to the individual which may result from substance misuse and/or co-existent problems
7. identify appropriate persons who can provide support when there are any problems with the assessment
8. demonstrate how to involve adults with parental responsibility in the assessment and referral of children and young people
9. demonstrate how to take account of a child or young person's age and maturity when involving them in assessment
10. describe the principles of the relevant legislation.

Outcome 3 Be able to assess individuals' needs and appropriate Interventions

The learner can:

1. present possible interventions to the individual in a positive manner and review the advantages and disadvantages with them
2. agree an appropriate course of action with the individual according to the type of intervention required
3. demonstrate how to achieve the best balance between the interests of the individual, any inherent risks and the legal duty of care
4. justify the choice of intervention according to locally agreed criteria
5. describe how to ensure consistency of approach with other members of the substance misuse team.

Outcome 4 Be able to make referrals to substance misuse services

The learner can:

1. explain the importance of referring individuals to the appropriate service with the required degree of urgency
2. plan arrangements for the referral with the individual and facilitate their contact with the service
3. make referrals and share information with services in line with local protocols
4. obtain feedback from the service to evaluate and refine referral practices
5. record details of the assessment and resulting actions.