

Health and Safety In a Forensic Psychiatric Hospital



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Partnerships In Care

Partnerships In Care is the UK's leading independent sector provider of specialist mental health and related services

Llanarth Court Hospital

Forensic Psychiatric Hospital -100 Patients

- Acute Mental Health
- Learning Disabilities
- Personality Disorders
- Low Secure-Rehabilitation
- Women's Mental Health Services
- Enduring Mental Health

Llanarth Court Hospital

- **Set in 80 acres of landscaped grounds**
- **Some Buildings date back to 18th Century & are grade 2 listed**
- **Other buildings are newly built and designed for purpose**







Safety in Healthcare

- Healthcare is priority sector
- Government Targets to reduce accidents
- National Care Standards
- Health Commission Wales
- NPSA-National Patient Safety Agency
- National Institute of Clinical Excellence
- HSE-Health & Safety Executive
- Fire Authority

SAFETY ISSUES

- Clinical Risks
- Non-Clinical Risks
- Security
- Fire Risk, Arson
- Food Safety/Hygiene
- Environmental Risks

Employ approximately 350 people

Clinicians

- Medical Doctors
- Psychologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Sports Therapists
- Nurses
- Other clinicians

Clinical Risks

- Infection control-Blood, Urine etc.
- Needlestick injuries
- Drug Errors
- Security-Patient Absconding
- Violence & Aggression
- Ligature Points & Self harm
- Medical Gases
- Psychological Hazards-Stress

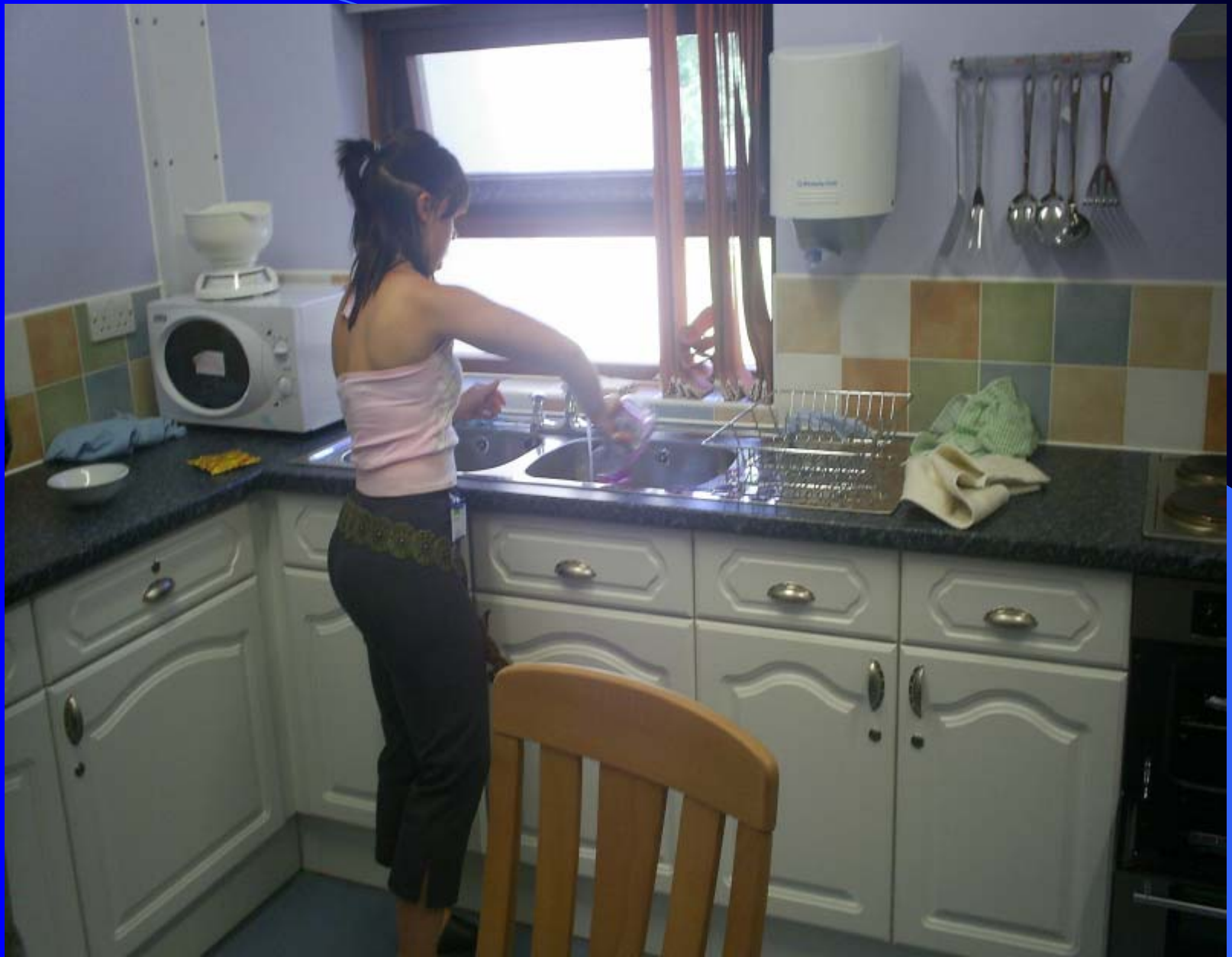




BIOHAZARD KIT











Violence & Aggression Risk

- Verbal Abuse
- Physical Violence







Reducing the Risk

- Patients are Risk Assessed (Multidisciplinary)
- Staff are trained in de-escalation techniques
- Environments are assessed
- Communication Systems
- Alarms
- Clinical Audit



Non Clinical Employees

- Maintenance Department
- Catering Department
- Housekeeping & Laundry
- Various Administration

Non-Clinical Risks

- Manual Handling & Musculoskeletal Injury
- C.O.S.H.H.
- Fire
- Security-Violence & Aggression
- Stress
- Slip, trips and falls
- Machinery
- Working at Height













Effective Risk Control

To be effective, systems for controlling risk must be:

- Embedded into the organisation
- Supported by Senior Management
- Communicated throughout the organisation
- Adequately resourced

Steps that we have taken

- Multidisciplinary Health and Safety Committee
- All Managers and Team Leaders trained to IOSH Healthcare Risk & Safety Management
- Integrated our Risk Activity
- Health & Safety is a standard agenda item for Senior Management Meetings
- All staff trained to CIEH Foundation Course



The Benefits of Integrated Risk Management

- Improvement in patient care and patient safety.
- Reduction in human cost in terms of patients suffering increased pain, disability, physical and psychological trauma and staff suffering distress, guilt, loss of confidence and loss of morale.
- Collective response to problem solving.
- **Improved communication**

- Reduction in therapy costs. Care for a patient following a patient safety incident is more expensive than that of the average patient (Runciman et al, 2002)
- Reduction in resource use required for handling the investigations around incidents, complaints and claims.
- Reduction in the estimated wider financial and social costs, which include lost working time and disability benefits.

Source: National Patient Safety Agency



**THE COSTS
OF GETTING IT WRONG**

Hallmark Healthcare (Wrexham) Ltd 2001

A 72 year old resident drank a quantity of a substance called 'Optimum C' (a degreaser containing sodium hydroxide) from a water jug left unattended on a desk in an office. This resulted in fatality of the resident.

Fine: £40,000.00

Costs Awarded to HSE: £6,079.00

Source: hse.gov.uk

£500,000 for Doctor

A young doctor was awarded nearly £500,000 in damages after pricking her finger on a needle left on a hospital trolley. She developed “needlestick phobia”, although she did not develop an infection.



Grainger v Specialty Care Ltd, High Court 11/11/04

A mentally ill patient hit by a car and injured after running away from a private hospital (Sutton Manor Clinic) was awarded damages £375,000 in the high court.

Mr Grainger could have been awarded £ 3 million if negligence could have been proven.

Knott v Newman Healthcare Trust (2003) CA

A Nurse who had injured her back due to the Trust's inadequate arrangements for lifting was awarded **£414,000** damages.

In January 2000 a Nurse accepted **£803,000** in an out of court settlement for a back injury caused by lifting a patient (Mahony 2000)

Nursing Standard 2004

Summary

- For Health and Safety to be effective in Mental Healthcare you must integrate risk activities.
- Build a Safety Culture that is lead by Senior Management and adequately resourced.
- Adopt best practice in all areas of risk management.
- Expect the unexpected.