

BASW Social Work in Health (SWiH) Thematic Group



ROLE OUTLINE FOR A GP BASED SOCIAL WORKER

Who we are:

Social Workers employed directly by the NHS as Case Managers to form part of a multidisciplinary team that works with Older Adults aged 65+. We are based in GP surgeries within a Primary Care Network and work alongside GPs, Pharmacists, Practice Nurses, District Nurses, Senior Case Managers, Health and Social Prescribing Coordinators, Social Prescribers and Administrative Staff.

What we do:

Holistic assessments (including basic observations such as blood pressure checks, weight and temperature checks) to review the health and social care needs of the eligible patient population registered with the GP surgery. Monitor and review health and care plans for acute and chronic health conditions and subsequent social care needs. Refer to and support liaison with community services (such as Opticians, Audiologists, Mental Health Teams, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Pharmacists, Speech and Language Therapists); Secondary care services (Geriatricians and all specialist hospital departments); Housing, Care Agencies and Voluntary sector services. Refer to and liaise with Adult Social Care. Perform Mental Capacity and Safeguarding assessments or referrals. Provide person-centred context of non-medical conditions which influence health outcomes to multidisciplinary team meetings to support case management. Advocate on behalf of patients to bridge gaps and promote health and social care equity.

How we work:

We work with patients, carers and other professionals using multiple social work theories and methods including person-centred, task-centred, strengths based, crisis intervention, empowerment, person-in-environment and psychosocial development theories as well as anti-ageist, anti-oppression and anti-discriminatory practices.

What we know:

In addition to Social Work knowledge, eligibility criteria and local resource availability, we need a working knowledge of The Care Act 2014; Health and Care Act 2022; Mental Health Act 1983; Mental Capacity Act 2005; Data Protection Act 2018; Human Rights Act 1998; Knowledge and Skills Statement for Social Workers in Adult Services. Knowledge of NHS and Integrated Care Systems. Understanding of vital signs, clinical observations and knowledge of basic medical terminology as well as health management. Knowledge of benefits and financial support options and eligibility