## Competency Assessment

**Supportive Observations Competency Checklist**

The Manager/Deputy Manager (Band 6 or above) must be satisfied that the colleague has completed and/or is competent in the following areas before undertaking observations. Competence should be ascertained through discussion and declarations from the colleague:

**For completion by the colleague:**

 I have read and understood the Supportive Observation Policy.

 I Have read and Understood the Seclusion Policy (Only applicable if patient is to be observed in seclusion).

**For discussion between colleague and Manager.**

The colleague demonstrates a clear understanding of:

 Requirements relating to frequency and documentation of observations.

 The four levels of observations detailed within the policy and how observations should be undertaken at night-time.

 Rationale for the application of enhanced supportive observations (i.e., self-harming, suicidal, physical health concern etc.).

 Why it’s important to know the patient circumstances leading to the observation level (i.e., mood, mental state, behaviour, physical health etc.).

 When and how to summon assistance.

 The importance of the patient care plan, receipt of a formal hand over from the shift coordinator and being introduced to the patient prior to commencement of any period of observation

 Their responsibilities in the event of an emergency on the ward (i.e., fire, serious incident etc.).

Please sign below to indicate that both parties agree with the declarations above:

Assessor: ………………………………………………… (Print Name)

………………………………………………….……………… (Signature)

Designation: ……………………………………………………..

Colleague: ……………………………………………………… (Print Name)

………………………………………………………………….……… (Signature)

Designation: ………………………………………………………..

Able to assess bank/agency colleague out of hours Y / N

**THERAPEUTIC OBSERVATION AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY –**

**KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ASSESSMENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Colleague Name** |  |
| **Role** |  |
| **Date Assessment Completed** |  |
| **Ward Manager / Nurse in Charge (name) and signature** |  |

1. When would enhance observations be a good clinical intervention for someone?
2. What are the different levels of observation called and what do they mean?
3. What actions / skills will you be utilising whilst undertaking observations?
4. Tony has just arrived on the ward to be admitted. What level of observation should he be placed on and for how long?
5. You are undertaking intermittent observations at intervals of 15 minutes for Elizah. When you go to find him, he is in the bathroom with the door shut. What would you do?
6. You have been allocated to complete general observations at night when all the patients are asleep. Please describe how you will ensure that these are completed appropriately?
7. Sammy is an informal patient who has capacity. A decision has been made to nurse her within eyesight, however she is demanding to be let out of the ward to go to the shops. What would you do?
8. You have just returned from 2 days leave and there have been several new admissions to the ward during that time. You are asked to undertake intermittent observations at intervals of no longer than 15 minutes. What are your responsibilities when receiving a handover of these observations from the previous colleague?
9. Which is the correct way to record intermittent enhanced observations of intervals no longer than 15 minutes – A, B or C? Why is accurate record keeping important?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | **B** | **C** |
| **10.15hrs** | **10.12hrs** | **10.05hrs** |
| **10.30hrs** | **10.23hrs** | **10.22hrs** |
| **10.45hrs** | **10.38hrs** | **10.44hrs** |
| **11.00hrs** | **10. 49hrs** | **11.00hrs** |
|  | **11.00hrs** |  |

1. Whilst completing within eyesight observations you observe that Nnedi has taken something off a visitor and tried to hide it from you in her bag. On a previous admission she took an overdose of tablets that had been brought into Hospital for her. What would you do and is there any other Trust policies that you would need to consider?

**For Registered Colleagues Only**

1. Please describe the process for reducing enhanced observations and who can agree this?
2. In terms of documentation, what are the responsibilities of the individual leading the review (either when reducing or increasing the level of observation)?

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| --- |
| **I confirm that I have read and understood the Supportive Therapeutic Observation Policy published on the Trust Intranet on the date of signature.**  **Name:**  **Date:**  **Signature:** |