The Role of a Health Protection Practitioner

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Who?

Our mission is to protect and improve the nation’s health and to address inequalities.

PHE is an executive agency of the Department of Health
Local Structure
Responsibilities

Making the public healthier
Supporting the public
Protecting the nation’s health
Sharing our information and expertise
Researching, collecting and analysing data
Reporting on improvements
Helping local authorities and the NHS
1. Helping people to live longer and more healthy lives;
2. Reducing the burden of disease and disability in life;
3. Protecting the country from infectious diseases and environmental hazards;
4. Supporting families to give children and young people the best start in life;
5. Improving health in the workplace;

Promoting the development of place-based public health systems;
Developing our own capacity and capability to provide professional, scientific and delivery expertise to our partners.
Organisational Structure

- Advisory Board
- Development Adviser
- Director of Communications
- Director of Strategy
- Chief Operating Officer
- Director of Programmes
- Finance and Commercial Director
- Director of Human Resources
- Director of Health Protection and Medical Director
- Director of Health and Wellbeing
- Chief Knowledge Officer
- Director of Nursing
- Chief of Staff
- Private Office
- Secretariat
- Corporate Governance
- Legal Services
Press Releases

Scarlet fever levels show a decline across England

Travel associated measles accounts for a third of England cases as numbers continue to decline

Call for new policy focus on brain health to reduce the risk of dementia
Latest Announcements

NHS Health Check up by 9.5% in 2013 to 2014

Campers reminded of barbeque carbon monoxide risk

Travel associated measles accounts for a third of England cases as numbers continue decline

Opiate and crack use continues to fall, alongside significant decrease in injecting

Call for new policy focus on brain health to reduce the risk of dementia
The Latest Publications

Routine childhood immunisations from July 2014 23 May 2014

Flu vaccinations: which flu vaccine should you or your child have. 23 May 2014

Making it work: a guide to whole system commissioning for sexual and reproductive health and HIV 23 May 2014

Strategic framework to improve the health and wellbeing of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men 23 May 2014
The Latest Statistics

NHS Health Check quarterly returns: May 2014. 28 May 2014

National Diet and Nutrition Survey: results from Years 1 to 4 (combined) of the rolling programme for 2008 and 2009 to 2011 and 2012. 14 May 2014

Public Health Outcomes Framework: May 2014 quarterly data update. 7 May 2014

Pertussis vaccine uptake in pregnant women October 2012 to March 2014. 6 May 2014

Local Alcohol Profiles for England: April 2014 annual data update. 29 April 2014
Centre Structure

Centre Director

Director of HP
  - CCDCs/CHP
  - Lead HPP

Screening & Imms
  - Devon & Cornwall

Health Improvement
  - Somerset

Healthcare Public health
  - Drugs & Alcohol
  - Justice Healthcare
Practitioners
Scarlet fever

Has a child at the school with confirmed scarlet fever and several cases (3/4) of unconfirmed scarlet fever. Child taken to hospital with suspected meningitis but was scarlet fever and hospital told mum to inform school and for the school to inform parents. Would like to confirm that they do need to contact parents and if this is the case would like some advise and information to send out.

Initial Advice given:

4 to 5 children poorly with cough, high temperature and sickness. Advised exclusion period for GAS is 24 hours post antibiotics.

Another 4 or 5 have had impetigo. Explained impetigo can also be caused by strep (or staph) and that affected children can return after 48 hours of antibiotics or when lesions have healed.
Enquiry

Gentleman with a PVL positive swab, would like information on decolonisation and patient information leaflet.

Initial Advice given:

please find attached the latest guidance on PVL and a patient advice leaflet, the advice leaflet has information on decolonisation, which can be also found in appendix 2.

Depending on your patient’s circumstances they should only undergo the decolonisation if they have not got an active infection/wound. The other aspect to consider is whether any other members of the family have a similar problem and also need decolonising.
Blood borne viruses

Child has pick up what looks like a blood sugar lancet, another child took it off of him and stab him with it. Please advise

Initial Advice given:

Discussed with nurse who had a teacher with her. The school's field is open to the public. There are diabetic children in school, teacher will check whether any have BBVs and redo risk assessment. If no further risks identified I advised that baseline bloods should be taken and an accelerated course of HBV imms given
TB

Enquiry

Given number child health imms. Works with care in the community and her son has asthma and caller not in great health. Starting with a client this evening with TB, there should be a risk assessment done but not sure and is a little concerned about the health risks. Would like some advise

Initial Advice given

DW GP case has had TB as a child and is under the care of haematology and respiratory teams. Not being treated as an open TB case. Information and reassurance given to the carer.
**Immunisations**

Patient due to have splenectomy, she had pneum jab last Thursday, also had a men c vaccine. She didn't have the hib. Can she give hib men c - or would that be too much men c?

Nurse has looked in Green Book

Initial Advice given

Advised that patient should have quadrivalent meningococcal rather than just MenC, and influenza
Recent Jobs

Health Protection Practitioner  Exeter  SEO  03 Mar 2014  Stage 1

SEO £26,492 – 33,816
Conclusion

“The HPP plays an integral role as part of the Health Protection Team. This professional fills a unique and demanding role that requires a good knowledge base, and the ability to adapt and change as the situation requires, ensuring accuracy, accessibility as an educational resource to a broad range of agencies and the public whilst continuing to develop skills necessary for the role.”