

Sudden Death of Junior Doctors whilst in Training

Review Process

The death of any individual is distressing. This is even more so when the death is unexpected or deliberate. As Postgraduate Deans we have a particular responsibility and duty of care to junior doctors in training. Therefore Postgraduate Deans within England will be applying a systematic approach to such events, in particular suicide, where it is hoped that proactive action and intervention where appropriate will reduce the incidence of such events. This will be done using the following steps:

1. Acknowledgement that there is an issue
2. Prevention
3. Ensuring access to support is available
4. Approach and advice during the initial post suicide period
5. Learning from events

Specifically Postgraduate Deans will promote health and wellbeing.

HEE Deans: Analysing events after they have occurred

Postgraduate Deans are committed to reducing these incidents as far as possible.

However in order to learn there must be data collated so learning can occur and support put in place as and when appropriate. This will also ensure that organisations involved have the correct educational support in place.

Principles:

There will be a nominated English Dean that will co-ordinate the approach for response within England.

There will be an annual collation of events and an annual summary produced with recommendations to HEE

English Deans will report in a systematic way to ensure patterns and lessons learned are visible.

English Deans will promote an evidence based approach to work force wellbeing as currently being promoted by the University of Southampton.

Appendix A contains suggested format for data collection.

Prof Namita Kumar
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Appendix A – Data Collection Form

Sudden Death Report Form		
GMC No		
Mode	Accident	Suicide
Identified at risk prior to event	Yes	No
Age		
Gender		
Ethnicity		
Sexual orientation		
Religion		
Marital status		
Next of kin known	Yes	No
Pre-existing health problems	Physical health	Mental health
Accessed OH services	Yes	No
Most recent ARCP outcome		
Previous concerns with educational progress	Yes	No
Previous recommendation to obtain educational support	Yes	No
Known to Educational support services - PGD	Yes	No
Accessed local education support – Employer/trust/practice	Yes	No
Fitness to Practice Issues	Yes	No
GMC referral	Yes	No
Site Details		
Site		
Supervision issues		
Appropriate use of Tariff		
Enhanced monitoring		
Employer and HR engagement in welfare issues		