

SJSI5022-Assingment 2

Outline the risks and ethical concerns of Mrs A, and how they could be overcome.

LUCY GRIMSHAW

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“Reflective practice is a dialogue of thinking and doing through which I become more skillful.”

”

Schon ,1983

What is Reflective practice and how is it beneficial to practitioners?

(McKenzie, Powell and Usher, 2005), (Jasper, 2003), (Ghaye, 2008).

Who is Mrs A and what issues does she face?

Physical health needs

- Visually impaired.
- Diabetic.
- Renal failure.
- Has been admitted to hospital due to self-neglect/poor medication management.

Mental health needs

- Emotional personality disorder.
- Unable to regulate emotions.
- Lacks capacity in certain elements of her life.
- Recently had a bereavement.
- At high risk of being exploited financially and sexually.
- Has considered self-harming and suicide

Social needs

- Has had a family breakdown.
- Was homeless now lives in a residential setting.
- Would like to live independently.
- Seeks friendships online.

Protection of vulnerable adults (POVA)

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 defines an “adult at risk” as :

“An individual who is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect, who has needs for care and support as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it”

Mrs. A could then be classed as a vulnerable adult due to her mental health but also due to the recent loss of her brother and family breakdown, leaving her vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Vulnerable adults then require ‘safeguarding’ from abuse which are procedures or activities upholding an individual’s fundamental right to live safely, free from abuse and neglect.

Abuse and sexual exploitation

Abuse is when someone missuses their power over individuals ,making individuals feel upset or frightened.

Mrs. A. has experienced financial abuse and sexual exploitation with unknown men she has met online. Factors to why this has happened maybe:

- She may believe their abuser is their friend, boyfriend or girlfriend.
- She may want attention or affection.
- She may be offered gifts.
- Lack of understanding to what consent is.

Safeguards for vulnerable adults

Laws and Legislations to protect vulnerable adults:

- ▶ The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2014)- S126, S127, S128
- ▶ The Mental Health Act (1983).
- ▶ The Equality Act (2010).
- ▶ The Disability Discrimination Act (2005).
- ▶ The Human Rights Act (1998).
- ▶ Mental Capacity Act (2005).
- ▶ Care Act (2014)-(England)

Legislation to protect adults from falls into four categories (Clements and Thompson 2007):

- ▶ Measures to prevent abuse.
- ▶ Barring certain individuals from working with vulnerable people.
- ▶ Imposing legal duties to act in the best interests of someone who lacks capacity .
- ▶ Making certain actions in relation to vulnerable adults a criminal offence and therefore a deterrent to potential abusers.

Mental capacity

“a person lacks capacity in relation to a matter if at the material time he is unable to make a decision for himself in relation to the matter because of an impairment of, or a disturbance in the functioning of, the mind or brain.”-
S2.1 The Mental Health Act (2005).

Before Mrs. A's assessment was made the following steps should have been encouraged ,to give the opportunity for Mrs. A to make decisions for herself:

- Was she given all the relevant information she needed?
- Was she given other options or alternatives?
- Was information explained or presented in a way that was understandable?
- Where family members, or advocate offered to represent Mrs. A ?

Advocacy support

Mrs. A is entitled to an advocate as stated in section 181 OF SSWB 2014, also within section 130e of The Mental Health Act 1983, the advocate could then:

- An advocate would help empower Mrs. A , to have her voice heard.
- Could also help to set provisions in place ,on top of identifying options and possible scenarios available to Mrs. A .
- help sustain independent living.
- Explain what professionals require ,in terminology that is understandable.
- Represent Mrs. A in multi agency meetings.
- Help set any wrongs right.

Unmet needs, support of third sector agencies

- Third sector organizations or voluntary sector covers a wide range of individuals needs, varying from housing and social care to health and housing.
- These various organization then provide work similar of statutory services , providing personal support to individuals .
- Working with individuals ,who may not be willing to engage with other services or local authorities.
- Forming friendship and preventing isolation of individuals.
- Providing individuals with support that would not always be recognized or unmet by local authority.
- Making third sector support more effective to socially excluded individuals.

Conclusion

- ▶ Reflective practice is needed for professionals to improve future cases and to make personal improvements coincide with organizational improvements.
- ▶ Vulnerable adults should be made aware of what abuse consists of as well as consent. For prevention of abuse.
- ▶ Advocates should be offered as soon as possible to represent individuals unable to represent themselves.
- ▶ Third sector organizations involvement can be very beneficial to individuals providing further support and guidance, to needs that would sometimes be missed by professionals.

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