



Early Identification and Intervention

Principle:

1. Early detection programs aim to identify and detect potential health problems or health risk behaviours of individuals and within target communities.
2. Early detection can provide appropriate intervention and advocacy for behavioural change strategies for individuals and communities that can achieve:
 - a) improved health outcomes;
 - b) prevention of further harm to health and wellbeing;
 - c) improved quality of life; and
 - d) improved cost and time efficiency.

Guidelines:

3. The Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases (TasCAHRD) will ensure the early identification of environmental, social, cultural, financial and physical factors in relation to the health issues of TasCAHRD's consumers. This may involve the collection of non-identifying statistics, accessing relevant research findings and analysing appropriate data, and conducting targeted consumer surveys.
4. Informed consent is required from all consumers involved in early identification and intervention activities.
5. The service will monitor the efficacy of undertaking different early identification and intervention activities.
6. Staff will identify, in consultation with consumers, areas in their work where early identification and intervention activities are appropriate.
7. Appropriate and, where applicable, evidence-based intervention will be undertaken for problems identified.
8. Early identification activities will be planned and evaluated.

9. Participation in any early identification program will be voluntary. Consumers have the right to withdraw from participation at any time.
10. Early identification and intervention approaches will be co-ordinated and based on current standards of practice and research.
11. Results from early identification and intervention activities will be incorporated into the annual planning process and feedback provided to consumers who participated.
12. TasCAHRD's annual business plan will include early identification and intervention strategies.
13. Our community members will be encouraged to participate in planning, implementing and evaluating early identification and intervention programs.
14. This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following policies:
 - a) Health Promotion;
 - b) Consumer Rights and Responsibilities;
 - c) Education, Training and Development;
 - d) Planning, Quality Improvement and Evaluation;
 - e) Confidentiality; and
 - f) Privacy.

Approved: 20 April 1996

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