Health Care Provision and People with Learning Disabilities. A Guide for Health Professionals

Description: Choice and equity of access to primary and secondary health care services is a priority within all aspects of the NHS, however it must be recognised that for some people access to health care can pose difficulties. For various reasons people with learning disabilities can present a range of challenges for the people around them, during times of ill health any difficulties will become ever more apparent. For the health professional working in mainstream primary and secondary care settings, these challenges can be difficult to overcome when attempting to identify health needs and deliver holistic care that is responsive to their individual needs.

Health Care Provision and People with Learning Disabilities – A Guide for Health Professionals provides clear information that will assist mainstream health care providers in gaining greater understanding of people with learning disabilities and managing their health needs.

Each chapter gives the reader information and guidance on dealing with a variety of situations found in health care settings. Examples of good practice are explained using case examples and experiences of people with learning disabilities and their carers. The book describes what is expected from the various health care teams and offers solutions to potential challenges and barriers they may be faced with. It includes information regarding specialist support services that can offer assistance to the individual and to the mainstream staff teams, while ideas are also offered on how to present information in a format people who have communication difficulties can understand.

The evidence base for Health Care Provision and People with Learning Disabilities – A Guide for Health Professionals has been drawn from extensive research, personal experience, policy guidance, as well as some of the current legislation that is applicable to this diverse group of people. The information shared will prove useful for those working in health settings as well as those undertaking studies in health care.

Contents:

Foreword.

Preface.

Acknowledgements.

1. Understanding Learning Disability.

2. Models of Practice.

3. Health Inequalities.


5. Communication needs of people with learning disabilities.

6. Roles and Responsibilities of Carers.

7. Meeting the Health Needs of People with Learning Disabilities in Primary Care Settings.


Useful resources and Web addresses.

Links to health screening assessments and health record booklets.

References.
Index.

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