

Action Plan: Death of a male prisoner - HMP Northumberland

Action Plan

No	Recommendation	Accepted/Not Accepted	Response	Target date for completion and function responsible	Progress (to be updated after 6 months)
1	The Head of Healthcare should ensure that staff use validated standard assessment tools to assess anxiety, depression and the risk of suicide and self-harm and that clinicians follow NICE guidance for prescribing antidepressants.	Accepted	<p>From 1 April 2015 mental health services will be provided by Tees Esk & Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, Re-Think & MIND. Recognised assessment tools will be used to assess anxiety and depression. There are no tools which have been validated for use in the prison environment and staff will be made aware of this and asked to exercise caution in interpreting the results.</p> <p>The Initial Assessment Offender Care Mental Health Risk tool is used to categorise the level of clinical risk and offers a guide for possible actions.</p> <p>The Head of Healthcare will issue all prescribers with a copy of the relevant NICE guidelines.</p>	30/05/15 Head of Healthcare	
2	The Director should ensure that officers have meaningful contact with every prisoner, through an effective personal officer scheme, which ensures that officers get to know prisoners and identify their needs, backed up by regular case history notes.	Accepted	The personal officer scheme will be reviewed and we will provide greater clarity to staff about their responsibilities. We will also introduce management checks to ensure that personal officers are getting to know the prisoners for whom they are responsible and making appropriate and regular entries about them on C-Nomis.	30/5/15 Head of Residence	