



Oviva UK

Safeguarding Strategy

2023-2025

Safeguarding Children & Adults

Safeguarding children applies to all children up to the age of 18 years.

Safeguarding is defined by The Children Act 1989 as meaning that:

“Agencies and organisations working with children and young people take all reasonable measures to ensure that risk of harm to individuals’ welfare are minimised. Where there are concerns that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, all agencies and organisations take appropriate actions to address those concerns working to local policies and working in partnership with local agencies.”

Safeguarding adults applies to a person 18 years and over.

Safeguarding adults is defined in the Care Act 2014 and means protecting a person’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. The Care Act seeks:

- To safeguard individuals in a way that supports them in making choices and having control in how they choose to live their lives.
- To promote an outcomes approach in safeguarding that works for people resulting in the best experience possible.
- To raise public awareness so that professionals, other staff and communities as a whole play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect.

Introduction

Oviva is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the adults, young people and children who use our services. Oviva is dedicated to ensuring that the principles and duties of safeguarding adults at risk, young people, and children are consistently, conscientiously, and holistically applied with the wellbeing of all, at the heart of what we do.

We are committed to continually improve, learn and share vital information to protect our patients and to ensure our staff are trained and supported in safeguarding and that the principles of safeguarding are placed at the centre of our decision making.

Oviva's safeguarding mission is to be a safe and trusted organisation where all adults and children at risk of harm, abuse or neglect are safeguarded by our staff who feel empowered and supported. Working collaboratively with our patients and in partnership with others to ensure the best support and outcomes are achieved.

This strategy does not detail procedure and operational policies required for the management of safeguarding adults and children.

Our aim

Our aim is that all adults and children who receive care from Oviva will be protected from neglect, harm and abuse. Safeguarding is everyone's business.

Working to ensure that safeguarding concerns are identified and responded to at the earliest opportunity. That our team treats people with compassion, dignity and respect and are mindful of capacity and their wishes; responding to the individual's needs and choices and working collaboratively with them during their care. We embrace safeguarding as a core aspect of clinical care and patient safety.

We will achieve our aim through

- Promoting and prioritising the safety of adults and children at risk. Ensuring that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and how to report any concerns.
- Ensuring that a culture of safety is maintained across the organisation and that we learn from our experience.
- Recognising and responding to early indicators of neglect, harm and abuse, ensuring a sensitive and timely response.
- Promoting inclusive and anti-discriminatory practice to support our diverse population.
- Ensuring that staff's wellbeing is supported following any safeguarding concerns.
- Keeping adults and children at the centre of everything we do, ensuring we make safeguarding personal, and that we have person-centred approaches to working with risk.
- Providing clear information to patients and their families when we have safeguarding concerns, involving them in how we respond to concerns.
- We will demonstrate our accountability through a transparent and robust governance assurance framework.
- We will provide a transparent culture of learning and development.
- Ensuring a safe and competent workforce through recruitment, supervision and training, ensuring that staff at all levels are provided with safeguarding training commensurate with their role.
- Working in partnership with local, regional and national partners and agencies, to achieve positive outcomes for adults and children at risk.
- We will take learnings from local, regional and national reviews to embed best practice.
- Ensuring we share information safely, legally and appropriately to keep adults, young people and children safe from neglect, harm and abuse.
- Excellence and expertise in our safeguarding and management teams.
- Oviva will provide robust leadership for safeguarding at every level and across the organisation
- Our work is underpinned by core legislation, further details can be found within our Safeguarding Policies, which are regularly reviewed and updated.