TAKING CARE OF CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR

SA Health recognises that patients and consumers, carers, volunteers and staff all want health services in which health care can be both delivered and received without personal threat or risk.

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What is challenging behaviour?

Any behaviour with the potential to physically or psychologically harm another person or self or property. It can range from verbal abuse through to threats or acts of physical violence.

Challenging behaviour incidents in 2017-2018



6445

Patient related incidents

41% behaviour to other persons

17% absconded

16% behaviour to patient

14% persistent damage to objects(s) or disregard for hospital by-laws



High Risk Settings

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

DRUG AND ALCOHOL

AGED CARE MENTAL HEALTH

AMBULANCE

2916 Work health safety incidents

62% hit by a moving object/person

38% mental stress from exposure/ victim/witness to violent event

Challenging Behaviour Spectrum



Ultimately, regardless of its extremity, challenging behaviour is a barrier to the delivery of care in a way that is safe for the patient and health staff.

SA Health has released a comprehensive strategy which aims at supporting health services to focus action on prevention and response to challenging behaviour in a systematic way.

For more information visit

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ChallengingBehaviourStrategy

10647
Code Black calls
(Personal Threats)

5% increase from 2016-2017

