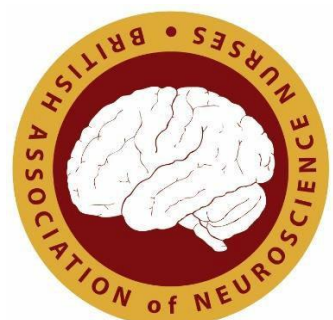


# Benchmark No. 4 Physical Restraint



## British Association of Neuroscience Nurses



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## Physical Restraint

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## History

The Neuroscience Nursing Benchmarking Group (NNBG) was established in the 1990's as a result of increasing concerns over inconsistencies in practices as part of a subsidiary of BANN. The group aims to improve on the quality of care by comparing and sharing practice with each other, and set explicit standards for comparison of current practice against the ideal standard. The group is committed to searching for the best evidence related to specific areas of neuroscience practice. Membership of the group consists of representatives from neuroscience units within the UK and Ireland, together with educational colleagues from both the NHS/HSC and Higher Educational Institutes. The group is further subdivided into regions and this benchmark was developed by the North West group of the NNBG in 2007.

In 2016, the NNBG consolidated back into BANN and further information about NNBG can be found on the BANN website [www.BANN.org.uk](http://www.BANN.org.uk).

BANN would like to acknowledge the leadership and significant contribution made by the NNBG, and all its contributors, to neuroscience nursing over the years.

## Benchmark No.4 Physical Restraint

### KEY POINTS

- All registered nurses involved in physical restraint are provided with structured competency based training and education programme for the management of patient with challenging behaviour and cognitive impairment
- A full risk assessment of the patient must be carried out and recorded prior to the use of any physical restraint
- The clinical need for physical restraint is accurately documented
- Following the assessment an individualised care plan will be implemented and evaluated specific to all aspects of care relating to the patient's individual physical restraint needs
- Accurate documentation includes the type of physical restraint employed, date and time that it was implemented, reviewed and discontinued
- The patient is reassessment at regular intervals or when their health needs change
- The appropriate type of physical device is employed to meet the patient's individual needs
- Patients and relatives are included in the decision-making process and on-going management where ever possible
- The least restraining therapy should be chosen for the shortest period of time.

**FACTOR 1 – Documentation – assessment and implementation of care**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←———— Level of achievement —————→ Excellent
<p>1.1 A full risk assessment of the patient must be carried out and recorded prior to the use of any physical restraint. (RCN, 2004; NICE, 2005; HSE, 2006)                      This must include a comprehensive assessment addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the cause of the altered behaviour i.e. physiological/psychiatric/neurological (Braine, 2005).</li> <li>• the use of alternative approaches i.e. environmental modifications, exercise programmes, behavioural and pharmacological management plans</li> <li>• the clinical need for the physical restraint is assessed and accurately documented (DH, 2000; Gallinagh <i>et al</i>, 2002).</li> <li>• the least restraining therapy should be chosen for the shortest period of time (DH, 2000; RCN, 2004; NICE, 2005).</li> </ul> <p>1.2 Following the assessment an individualised care plan will be implemented and evaluated specific to all aspects of care relating to the patients` individual physical restraint needs (Gastmans and Milisen, 2006).</p> <p>1.3 The patient is reassessed at regular intervals or when their health needs change in accordance with local policy (Sullivan-Marx <i>et al</i>, 1999; RCN, 2004).</p>	

**FACTOR 1 – Documentation – assessment and implementation of care**

Statement of best practice	Poor ← Level of achievement → Excellent
<p>1.4 An education resource file is available that supports the risk assessment, the physical restraint method or device used and pharmacological intervention</p> <p>1.5 Accurate documentation as per policy /protocol which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The type of physical restraint employed</li> <li>• The date and time that it was implemented and discontinued</li> <li>• The date it was reviewed</li> <li>• Pharmacological intervention used is documented and reviewed at regular intervals depending upon the individual patient. The use of haloperidol and chlorpromazine is contra-indicated (Wilkinson <i>et al</i>, 1999)</li> <li>• Discussion and information on individual patient's need for restraint is undertaken with family/carers.</li> </ul> <p>(Guidance for restrictive physical interventions DH, 2002; Gallinagh <i>et al</i>, 2002; Evans <i>et al</i>, 2002)</p>	

**FACTOR 2 – Protocol**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←                      Level of achievement                      →                      Excellent
2.1 The care plan is evidence based, dated and reviewed within the last two years and updated accordingly (DH, 2001)	
2.2 All documentation meets the needs of the individual patient and is based upon the best available evidence	
2.3 There is evidence of daily multi-disciplinary evaluations of care delivered and this is appropriately recorded.	
2.4 There are evidence/research based guidelines/protocols available and used for the management of a patients` challenging behaviour These include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration as to the appropriate products/ device for restraining (Evans <i>et al</i>, 2003; MHRA, 2006) which meets the patient`s individual needs.</li> <li>• Removing devices such as hand mitts to check for skin integrity and to maintain patient hygiene needs as required with accurate documentation</li> <li>• Repositioning of the patient which is documented</li> </ul>	

**FACTOR 2 – Protocol**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←                      Level of achievement                      →                      Excellent
2.4 cont. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The types of physical restraint e.g., bed rails, hand mitts, wrist/arm restraint, wheelchair belts, over chair tables, seclusion, one-to-one specialing and wander guards</li> <li>• The use of pharmacological intervention</li> <li>• Family are involved were deemed appropriate</li> </ul>	
2.5 Staff are aware of the policy /protocol and there is evidence of application to practice	
2.6 Policy protocol is up-to-date and reviewed at least every 2 years	
2.7 Policy protocol is research/evidence based with rationale for practice referenced	





**FACTOR 3 – Education**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←———— Level of achievement —————→ Excellent
3.1 cont. 8. Staff can demonstrate awareness of the legal and ethical ramifications of employing physical restraint devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Mental Health Act (1987, 2007) Great Britain, Mental Treatment Act (1945) Ireland</li> <li>ii. Mental Incapacity Act Scotland (2000) England, Wales Northern Ireland (DH, 2005)</li> <li>iii. Human Rights Act (1998)</li> </ul>	
3.2 Staff receive training on how to complete a comprehensive risk assessment form (HSE, 2006)	
3.3 Staff are aware of the policy/guidelines for the management of patients with challenging behaviour (Audit Commission, 1998; DH, 2000)	
3.4 There is evidence of continual practice development (NMC, 2004)	
3.5 Protocols and guidance and all relevant documentation is easily accessible and visible in the appropriate clinical area	

**FACTOR 4 – Patient Information**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←                      Level of achievement                      →                      Excellent
<p>4.1 Patients/carers have access to verbal and written information with the opportunity to discuss this and its relevance to the family member's individual needs (Vassallo, 2005)</p> <p>4.2 Written information is available for patients &amp; carers (Hickey, 2003) and alternative methods of communication are available</p> <p>4.3 Patients and relatives are included in the decision-making process and on-going management wherever possible.</p> <p>4.4 Patient/ family/carer must be given the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rationale for the physical restraint device</li> <li>▪ Type of restraining device used</li> <li>▪ How often the patient will be reviewed</li> <li>▪ Possible complications</li> <li>▪ Risks and benefits</li> <li>▪ Likely duration of the restraint device (NICE, 2005)</li> </ul> <p>4.5 Any information verbal /written that is given to the patient/carers is documented in the patient's notes</p> <p>4.6 The information that is given is current and evidence based (DH,2002; DH, 2003)</p>	

**FACTOR 4 – Patient Information**

Statement of best practice	Poor ←                      Level of achievement                      →                      Excellent
4.7 Patient information is developed and reviewed in accordance with local policy seeking user and carer views were possible	

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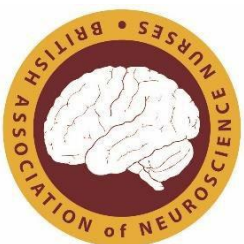
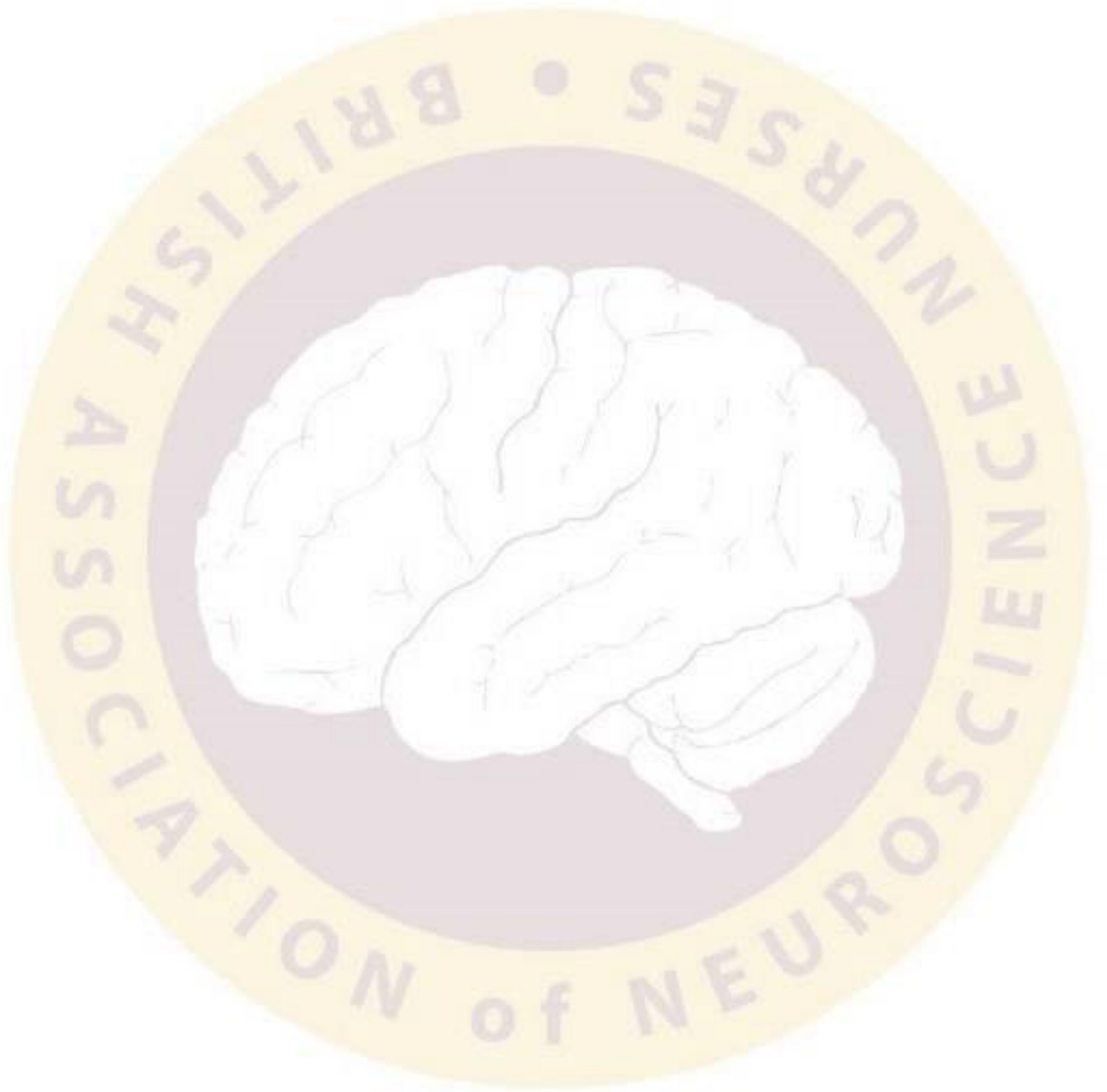
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