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Context and Purpose

The Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children provides safeguarding, child protection expertise and leadership throughout health and multi-agency partnerships. The role is pivotal to complex case management, improved partnership working, strategic planning, quality assurance and performance monitoring. It is essential when advising on the development and provision of services. CCGs and the NHS need a much greater awareness of and commitment to the role to ensure that these key professionals are able to undertake their core function to adequately safeguard and protect the wellbeing of vulnerable children and young people within their geographical footprint.

Key Messages

- CCGs should have access to the expertise of the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children, the establishment being in line with the requirements of the intercollegiate guidance.
- The Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children role is distinct and should not be combined with other designated nurse roles or functions, for example vulnerable adults.
- The designated function should be a strategic post without any responsibilities for individual children or young people.
- Safeguarding supervision arrangements should be in place to meet statutory requirements and promote safe practice across the health economy.

Department of Education (2015) *Working Together to Safeguard Children* <https://www.gov.uk/.../working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

NHS England (2014) *Managing Conflicts of Interest: Statutory Guidance for Clinical Commissioning Groups* www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/man-confl-int-guid

NHS England (2015) *Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the Reformed NHS Accountability and Assurance Framework* www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/safeguarding

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (2014) *Safeguarding children and young people: roles and competences for health car for Dr RRRAk@icp.ac.uk* www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/publications