

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

SpiroSense - Independent Respiratory Diagnostics

Person responsible - Catherine Bridges

Date created - 04/02/26

Review date - 03/02/27

Purpose

Spirosense is committed to protecting adults using the service from abuse, neglect and improper treatment.

This policy sets out how safeguarding concerns are recognised, reported and managed in compliance with Regulation 13 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014.

Legal and National Framework

Spirosense works in accordance with:

- Regulation 13 – Safeguarding Service Users from Abuse and Improper Treatment
- Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Care Quality Commission guidance
- The Care and Support Statutory Guidance (Care Act 2014)

Understanding Abuse

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights and may consist of a single act or repeated acts.

Types of abuse include:

- Physical abuse
- Psychological or emotional abuse

- Sexual abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- Neglect and acts of omission
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Modern slavery
- Self-neglect



Signs That May Indicate Abuse

Indicators may include:

- Unexplained injuries
- Withdrawal, anxiety or fearfulness
- Sudden financial difficulty
- Poor hygiene or untreated medical issues
- Reluctance to speak in presence of another person
- Inconsistent explanations

Concerns may arise from observation, disclosure, or third-party information.

Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding Lead:

Catherine Bridges – Registered Manager / Clinical Lead

Email- info@broadstreetpractice.co.uk

Out of hours concerns should be reported directly to the Local Authority Safeguarding Team or emergency services if immediate danger is suspected.

Preventing Abuse

Although Spirosense is a sole practitioner service, safeguarding is embedded through:

- Professional clinical conduct
- Clear professional boundaries
- Safe clinic environment
- Transparent documentation
- Secure handling of patient information
- Zero tolerance approach to abuse or discrimination
- Compliance with professional registration standards

No restraint is used within the service.



Approach to Restraint

Spirosense does not use physical restraint.

Any restriction of liberty would only ever occur in a medical emergency and in line with:

- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Best interests decision-making

Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

Immediate Danger

If a person is at immediate risk of harm:
Call 999.

Standard Safeguarding Reporting Process

1. Recognise concern or receive disclosure
2. Remain calm and listen
3. Do not investigate
4. Record factual information immediately
5. Consider consent and capacity
6. Contact Local Authority Safeguarding Adults Team
7. Document actions taken
8. Notify CQC if required

Allegations Against the Safeguarding Lead / Registered Manager

As Spirosense is a sole practitioner service:

- Any allegation concerning the Registered Manager will be reported directly to:
 - The Local Authority Safeguarding Adults Team
 - The Care Quality Commission
 - The relevant professional regulator (if required)

Investigations will be conducted independently by appropriate statutory authorities.

What Happens After a Concern is Reported

- The Local Authority will decide if the threshold for a Section 42 enquiry under the Care Act is met.
- Spirosense will cooperate fully with any investigation.
- Records will be shared lawfully and securely.
- Support will be offered to the adult at risk.

Consent and Safeguarding

Where possible:

- Consent will be sought before making a safeguarding referral.
- If the person has capacity and refuses consent, this will be respected unless:
 - Others are at risk
 - A serious crime has occurred
 - The individual lacks capacity
 - There is a public interest justification

Capacity will be assessed in line with the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Local Authority Safeguarding Team

Local Authority Safeguarding Adults Team:

Lincolnshire County Council – Adult Care and Community Wellbeing

Safeguarding Adults Team (Customer Service Centre):

☎☎ 01522 782155

Online referral form:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adult-care/safeguarding-adults>

Email (if required for professional referrals):

csc@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team:

☎☎ 01522 782333

Police: 999 (emergency) / 101 (non-emergency)

Raising Concerns About Abuse

People using the service can raise concerns by:

- Speaking directly to the Registered Manager
- Emailing cathybridges@hotmail.com
- Contacting the Local Authority directly
- Contacting CQC

CQC contact details:

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/contact-us>

Record Keeping

All safeguarding concerns will be:

- Documented factually
- Stored securely
- Shared on a need-to-know basis
- Retained in line with data protection legislation

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

This policy complies with:

Care Act 2014 – Statutory guidance for safeguarding adults and social care duties

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents>

Care and Support Statutory Guidance (Care Act 2014) – Detailed guidance on safeguarding adults, including Section 42 enquiries

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance#safeguarding>

Regulation 13 – Safeguarding Service Users from Abuse and Improper Treatment
– Health & Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2936/regulation/13/made>

Mental Capacity Act 2005 – Guidance on assessing capacity and making best-interest decisions

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/contents>

Care Quality Commission Guidance – Safeguarding – CQC expectations for providers under Regulation 13

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/regulations/regulation-13-safeguarding-service-users-abuse-improper-treatment>

Equality Act 2010 – Protects individuals from discrimination, relevant when considering safeguarding and access

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

Data Protection Act 2018 & UK GDPR – Legal framework for handling personal and sensitive data

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents>

Lincolnshire County Council – Safeguarding Adults – Local authority contact and guidance for reporting concerns

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adult-care/safeguarding-adults>

Care Quality Commission – Raising Concerns / Contact – For reporting concerns about services or practice

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/contact-us>

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually or following changes to legislation or guidance. Legislation and guidance links are checked and updated as part of the annual policy review.

Last review date: 04/02/26

Next review date: 03/02/27