



Case Study June 2020

Contract: South Yorks Amparo

Referral Information:

The referral was made by health visitor following the death by overdose of prescribed drugs of the client's mother.

Assessment Tools/Focus identified

Initial contact took place within 24 hours of receiving the referral, and a first visit was offered within 7 days. The planned meeting took place with the beneficiary, with all initial paperwork completed. This included a full needs assessment, the production of a support plan, a safety plan (which was left with the beneficiary in case of emergencies) and the first set of impact assessments was completed using the Short Warwick–Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (SWEMWBS).

There were no risks identified at this point. It was a relatively positive appointment, under the circumstances, which included talking about how the client felt in general, and also how they felt the investigation into their mother's death was progressing.

Communication:

The Suicide Liaison Worker (SLW) made a lengthy call to the client which included discussion of their mum's long history of mental health problems and how mum had amassed a large store of medication. The client believed that had their mum reached out for help before they had slipped into isolation they may still be here. Their family live in the south and the client feels very much on their own, although their partner is supportive. The SLW sent copy of Help is at Hand and it was agreed to talk again after the funeral.

Communication:

The SLW sent a text shortly after the funeral. The client replied and it was clear that they were full of self-blame and feeling that they could have done more and were at home again, spending lots of time on their own, crying lots and falling out with their partner who 'doesn't get how they are feeling'. They had contacted their GP who is 'monitoring'.

Communication:

The SLW texted the client to see how they were and offering a telephone appointment. They thanked the SLW for their support but declined the conversation saying the virus crisis was a distraction from their own upset.

Communication:

The SLW sent an enquiry to the client and they replied by text as they were struggling with feelings of guilt but were finding it difficult to talk about it. The SLW suggested that they check out the Help at Hand booklet, also to try the SOBS helpline.

Communication:

The SLW lost contact with the client, however they sent a letter wishing them well in the future and reminding them that they could contact the SLW at any time.

Attendance at Inquest:

The inquest has not happened yet.

Any additional referrals received as a result of the initial referral?

No additional referrals were made as a result of the initial contact.

Where any risk/incident reports completed?

No

Outcomes	Fully Achieved	Partially Achieved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Achieved	<input type="checkbox"/>
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It would appear that attempts to engage meaningfully have been only partly successful. It was clear that confronting their own feelings was difficult, as was talking about them to others.

Evidence of Best Practice	Lessons Learned	Skills sharing
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Client responded well to the initial interaction and was grateful for the support given.