

RAPIDMED SERVICES

Safeguarding Statement & Policy

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Document	Safeguarding Policy
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This is a working policy for RapidMed Services (RapidMed Events). It is reviewed at least annually and after any safeguarding incident. It should be read alongside the RapidMed Clinical Governance Statement (DP06) and Complaints Procedure (DP07).

1. Our commitment

RapidMed Services is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk at every event we attend. We recognise that providing event medical cover brings us into contact with members of the public of all ages and vulnerabilities, sometimes at moments of distress or injury. Everyone who uses our service has the right to be kept safe from harm, abuse, and neglect.

As a sole-trader provider, the responsibility for safeguarding within RapidMed Services rests with Ronald Carter, who acts as the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the business.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all work carried out under the RapidMed Events name, and to any second responder or assistant engaged by RapidMed Services for an event. It covers our conduct towards patients, event attendees, event staff and volunteers, and any children or adults at risk we encounter in the course of providing cover.

3. Definitions

Term	Meaning
Child / young person	Anyone under the age of 18.
Adult at risk	Any person aged 18 or over who may be unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation, for example due to a disability, illness, injury, intoxication, or the circumstances they are in at the event.
Safeguarding	Protecting people's health, wellbeing, and human rights, and

	enabling them to live free from harm, abuse, and neglect.
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead — the person responsible for managing safeguarding concerns. For RapidMed Services this is Ronald Carter.

4. Disclosure and Barring (DBS)

The RapidMed clinician holds a current Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, obtained through the Health Professions Accreditation Council (HPAC) as the clinician's professional accreditation body. Because it is held against professional accreditation rather than a single employer, it applies to the clinician's practice across settings, including event medical work carried out under RapidMed Events. The certificate is live on the DBS Update Service.

- **Update Service** — The certificate is registered with the DBS Update Service, so event organisers and councils can verify online, with the clinician's consent, that it remains current — without needing a fresh check.
- **Second responders** — Any second responder engaged by RapidMed Services is required to hold their own current enhanced DBS check appropriate to their role, and to evidence it before working with us.
- **On request** — We are happy to present the original certificate, or provide Update Service verification, to any event organiser on request.

Internal note (not a field to complete): the DBS certificate number and the clinician's date of birth are the details needed to run an Update Service check. These are provided directly to a verifying organisation on request — not printed in this policy — so that verification happens with the clinician's knowledge and consent at the point of checking. Keep these details in RapidMed's own records for release on request.

5. Recognising abuse and harm

We are alert to the signs that a child or adult at risk may be experiencing harm, including physical, emotional, sexual, financial, or neglect-based abuse, as well as harm arising at the event itself such as a child separated from their carers, or a vulnerable person who is lost, distressed, intoxicated, or being exploited. We take any disclosure or reasonable suspicion seriously.

6. What we do if we have a concern

Step	Action
1	Ensure the immediate safety of the person. Provide any clinical care needed. If there is an immediate risk to life or safety, call 999.
2	Reassure the person. Listen without leading questions. Do not promise confidentiality — explain we may need to pass information on to keep them safe.
3	Record the facts as soon as practicable: what was seen, heard, or disclosed, in the person's own words where possible, with date, time, and location. Keep opinion separate from fact.

4	Report the concern without delay to the event's own safeguarding lead or duty manager where one exists, and to the DSL (Ronald Carter).
5	Where a child or adult is at risk of significant harm, refer to the relevant local authority safeguarding team, or the Police on 999 if urgent. In Suffolk this is Suffolk County Council's safeguarding services (customer first / adult and children's safeguarding).
6	Complete a written safeguarding record and retain it securely and confidentially in line with our Data Retention Policy (DP02).

We will always act in the best interests of the child or adult at risk. If in doubt, we seek advice from the local authority safeguarding team rather than taking no action.

7. Safe working practices

- We avoid being alone and unobserved with a child or adult at risk wherever practicable. Clinical care of a minor is provided, where possible, in the presence of their parent, carer, or another responsible adult.
- We treat all patients with dignity and respect, explain what we are doing, and seek consent appropriate to the person's age and capacity.
- We do not photograph patients. Any clinical documentation is handled under our privacy and data-retention policies.
- We maintain professional boundaries at all times and never use our position to exploit or abuse the trust of a vulnerable person.

8. Information sharing

We share safeguarding information on a need-to-know basis, proportionate to the risk, and in line with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. The safety of a child or adult at risk always takes precedence over concerns about sharing information. We record what we shared, with whom, and why.

9. Training and review

The RapidMed clinician maintains safeguarding awareness appropriate to the role as part of ongoing continuing professional development, and keeps knowledge of local referral routes current. This policy is reviewed at least every 12 months and after any safeguarding incident or relevant change in guidance or law.

10. Key contacts

Contact	Detail
RapidMed Designated Safeguarding Lead	Ronald Carter — 07704 805 511 — events@rapidmed.co.uk
Emergency (immediate risk to life or safety)	999
Suffolk adults safeguarding	Suffolk County Council — Customer First 0800 917 1109 (out of hours diverts to the Emergency Duty Service)

Suffolk children's safeguarding	Suffolk County Council — Customer First 0800 917 1109 (out of hours diverts to the Emergency Duty Service)
NSPCC helpline	0808 800 5000

Complete the local authority numbers from the current Suffolk County Council safeguarding pages before issuing. These should be verified periodically as part of the annual review.

RapidMed Services is the trading name of Ronald Carter, sole trader, Leiston, Suffolk. This policy does not replace the safeguarding responsibilities of the event organiser.