

**ABSTRACT- PRACTICE STANDARDS FOR PAEDIATRIC RENAL SOCIAL WORKERS**

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There are a small number of Paediatric Renal Social Workers practising in the UK and the role varies amongst renal units. We meet as a group once a year and share our knowledge and expertise. However, there are no formal practice standards in place to inform our work.

At the current time, our work is underpinned by our legal requirement to register with the General Social Care Council and to follow their code of conduct. We are also required to follow our local authorities' guidelines for social work practice. EG. Nottinghamshire County Council- Children & Young People's Services. Social Care & Health Standards. April 2009. There is also the National Service Framework 2006.

This legislation is very generic in content and there is a lack of available information that relates directly to the role of being a Paediatric Renal Social Worker. My presentation will address these issues and suggest a way forward using case studies to highlight why social workers in this specialist field require a frame of reference to inform their daily work. Devising practice standards will take time but this presentation aims to provide a starting point and provoke discussion amongst delegates about moving forward with this proposal.