
GUIDANCE FOR THE UPDATE AND REFRESHING OF STAFF TRAINED IN MAPA® PHYSICAL INTERVENTIONS

As a matter of best practice, all staff trained in MAPA® physical interventions should be updated and have their skills refreshed every 12 months; in 'exceptional' circumstances this can extend to 15 months. This Guidance is reflective of current national standards for training in the use of physical interventions; the BILD Code of Practice for the Use of Physical Interventions (2006) (6.7 refers) and the NIMHE (2004) (12.2.3 refers).

For the purpose of this criterion being applied, attendance is measured by the **full** calendar month; for example, if a person was initially trained or most recently updated on *15.01.08* their 12 month period can technically be applied until *31.01.09* and the 15 month *exception* rule will run for 3 full calendar months following the part-month; using this example, 30 April 2009. This enables a small amount of flexibility when employers are organising blocks of update and refresher training for staff.

The General Rule

Where an individual has exceeded **15 months** since their initial training or most recent update training, there is an expectation that they will need to attend an intensive update; this event should be for a period of at least 60% of their initial course and should include the main theory and skills components of the original event. Formal reassessment will be required as part of the training.

Where an individual exceeds **24 months** since their initial training or most recent update training they will need to undertake the initial training programme again. Formal reassessment will be required as part of the training.

Between 0 and 12 months – Training status = LIVE.

Attendance at an *Update and Refresher* training event during this time period means that the individual can maintain their 'LIVE' status and are able to utilise their MAPA® skills and knowledge, as required.

Requirement to be able to continue to utilise MAPA® skills.
Attendance at an <i>Update and Refresher</i> event delivered by Positive Options Licensed MAPA® Trainers.

Between 12 and 15 months (exceptional circumstances) – Training status = LIVE.

Attendance at an *Update and Refresher* event during this time period means that staff can maintain their 'LIVE' status and are able to utilise their MAPA® skills and knowledge, as required. However, this arrangement for update and refresh should be treated as the **exception rather than the (expected 12 month) rule.**

Requirement to be able to continue to utilise MAPA® skills.

Attendance at an *Update and Refresher* event delivered by Positive Options Licensed MAPA® Trainers.

Between 15 and 24 months – Training status = LAPSED.

Failure to have attended an *Update and Refresher* event before this time period means that the individual is no longer 'LIVE' and must avoid, wherever possible and practicable the use of MAPA® physical interventions until such time that they have attended an *Intensive Update* event.

Requirement to be able to re-activate 'LIVE' status and continue to utilise MAPA® skills.

Attendance at an *Intensive Update and Refresher* course, the duration of which should be at least 60% of the initial course that the staff member attended and the event must be delivered by Positive Options Licensed MAPA® Trainers.

After 24 months – Training status = EXPIRED.

Failure to have attended an *Update and Refresher* event before this time period means that the individual is no longer 'LIVE' and should avoid, where possible and practicable the use of MAPA® physical interventions until such time that they have attended an initial MAPA® training programme, in line with the training needs analysis of the organisation.

Requirement to be able to re-activate 'LIVE' status and continue to utilise MAPA® skills.

Attendance at an initial MAPA® training event, delivered by Positive Options Licensed MAPA® Trainers.

References

BILD (2006) Code of Practice for Physical Interventions: A guide for trainers and commissioners of training (2 Edn). BILD: Kidderminster.

NIMHE (2004) Mental Health Policy Implementation Guide. Developing Positive Practice to Support the Safe and Therapeutic Management of Aggression and Violence in Mental health In-patient Settings.