

# Mental Health Interprofessional (IPE) event Guidelines for Personal Safety

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## Important things to remember:

- Travel as a team to your visits. Do not have valuables on show. Be careful with your bag; if possible wear one that you can sling across your body. Keep the opening innermost. Feeling threatened in any situation: Leave immediately.
- Do not respond to aggression with aggression, just leave. If you are attacked: In this very unlikely event scream and shout for help.
- Do not appear to be lost; check your map inconspicuously before you set off anywhere. Do not isolate yourself: Carry change, a phone card, mobile 'phone etc in case you need to make a call and ensure you have the contact details of your tutor.
- Never go straight home after a visit without letting your tutor know. Ideally you should always return to the base classroom first. If by prior arrangement you are not doing this (e.g. a visit is finishing quite late) a designated person in the group must contact the tutor by mobile phone to confirm everyone has left safely.

## Risk Assessment

- An experienced tutor will have previously met all the patients in their homes and assessed the environment as suitable for a home visit by students. You are reminded that a person's home is a private residence and it is not possible to check everything. Therefore, you must take reasonable measures to ensure your own safety, and that of your group e.g. the group remain together at all times.
- You are welcome to use your car to travel between your appointments. However, if you intend to give other students a lift, you must check with your insurance company that you are insured for *business use*, as the university's insurance does not cover this.



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- To maximise your safety whilst travelling between your visits please see the relevant points above relating to personal safety. Additionally, it is your responsibility, as representatives of your university, to act in a sensible, mature and professional manner at all times.
- **You have a responsibility for health and safety too.** If you observe anything that concerns you during any part of a visit, please feed it back immediately to your locality tutor or to the module leader.



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