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What is a Physical Health Check?



A Physical Health Check is for someone with a severe mental illness.

This could be things like schizophrenia, bipolar or psychosis



A Physical Health Check is usually done by your doctor or a nurse once a year. The check is done to help you stay healthy



You can get a Physical Health Check if you are aged 18 or over



Why is it good to have a Physical Health Check?



You can talk to a health professional about anything you might be worried about

If there is anything wrong then the doctor or nurse can sort it out before it gets worse

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What happens at a Physical Health Check?
The doctor or nurse may do these things:



Measure your blood pressure



Measure your weight and height



 Ask questions about your lifestyle, like whether you smoke or drink alcohol and how much



Do a blood glucose test



Do a blood lipid test, which includes your cholesterol



 Ask you about any medicines you are taking



Speak to you about ideas for staying healthy

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What happens after a Physical Health Check?



You will talk about the results and agree next steps. These might be:



Talk about personal physical health goals



Get help and support to be more healthy



Make an appointment for another check in 12 months time



Top tips for your Physical Health Check



Ask the doctor or nurse to explain anything you do not understand



Agree with the doctor or nurse what the next steps are



Think of a Physical Health Check as an MOT and expect to have one each year





This leaflet was made by the Race Equality Foundation and Lewisham Speaking Up.