



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
CHCMHS005 Provide services to people  
with co-existing mental health and alcohol  
and other drugs issues**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for CHCMHS005 Provide services to people with co-existing mental health and alcohol and other drugs issues

## Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	<p>This version was released in <i>CHC Community Services Training Package release 2.0</i> and meets the requirements of the 2012 Standards for Training Packages.</p> <p>Significant changes to performance criteria. New evidence requirements for assessment including volume and frequency requirements. Significant changes to knowledge evidence.</p>

## Performance Evidence

The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role. There must be evidence that the candidate has:

- worked collaboratively to provide services to at least 3 people with co-existing mental illness and AOD issues

## Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively do the task outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage the task and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of:

- values, philosophies and service delivery models of the AOD and mental health sectors, their similarities and differences, including:
  - holistic and strength based approaches
  - recovery and recovery oriented practice
  - harm minimisation
  - power relations and dynamics, including empowerment/disempowerment, language
  - access, equity, rights based practice and social justice
  - dignity of risk
- legal and ethical considerations (international, national, state/territory and local) for dealing with people with co-existing issues, and how these are applied in organisations and individual practice:
  - codes of practice

- discrimination
- dignity of risk
- duty of care
- human rights
- informed consent
- mandatory reporting
- practice standards
- privacy, confidentiality and disclosure
- policy frameworks
- records management
- rights and responsibilities of workers, employers and individuals accessing the service
- specific mental health/AOD legislation and its impact on individual workers
- work role boundaries – responsibilities and limitations
- children in the workplace
- work health and safety
- safety and risk management considerations and strategies, including:
  - identification
  - prevention
  - minimisation strategies
  - evidence based de-escalation techniques, conflict resolution and negotiation skills
- substances and AOD work, including:
  - common types of illegal and legal substances, including medications, tobacco and caffeine
  - harms, including common impacts of long-term use
  - common signs and symptoms of use, dependency and withdrawal
  - different models of approach, including harm minimisation and abstinence
  - drug tolerance
  - relapse prevention strategies
  - basic knowledge and general understanding of interactions between common types of mental health medications and other substances
- interactions and risk factors between common types of mental health medications and other substances
- evidence-based mental health practice including *National practice standards for the mental health workforce*
- role and use of standard screening tools to identify co-existing mental health/AOD issues
- available services and support strategies appropriate to those with co-existing issues, including those beyond AOD and mental health
- techniques and processes for developing, documenting and implementing a plan of action to address co-existing issues
- models of change and basic principles of motivational interviewing

## Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. Where simulation is used, it must reflect real working conditions by modelling industry operating conditions and contingencies, as well as, using suitable facilities, equipment and resources.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

## Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5e0c25cc-3d9d-4b43-80d3-bd22cc4fle53>