



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for HLTAHCS003 Complete routine physical health assessments

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- complete a physical health assessment of a total of five Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients to collectively include:
 - females
 - males
 - people across the lifespan including children and adolescents through to the elderly
- for each of the five clients, complete a head to toe physical examination and tests:
 - measurement of height, weight and waist circumference and calculation of body mass index
 - measurement of temperature
 - measurement of blood pressure, pulse rate and rhythm
 - measurement of respiratory rate and peak flow
 - examination of:
 - eyes, including physical examination and vision test
 - ears and hearing, including otoscopy
 - mouth, throat, teeth and gums
 - skin
 - hands and feet including observations for infective and fungal issues, oedema, abnormalities in the structure and shape, and nerve damage
 - chest by visual and aural observation of respiration for any signs of congestion and distress
 - abdomen by visual observation
 - urinalysis via dipstick testing
 - blood glucose test with a blood glucose testing meter
 - examinations for specific presenting problems
- for each of the five clients:
 - evaluate all assessment information and report own interpretation of client's current health status to health care team
 - consult with the health care team to verify assessment results and confirm client's health status
 - discuss assessment outcomes with the client

- document, in client's records, accurate details of
 - medical and social history
 - observations, examinations and tests completed
 - evaluation notes about the health of each client
 - information and referrals provided to the client
- from assessments personally completed or from case study assessment documentation:
 - identify signs, symptoms and implications of four different potentially serious health problems, and report on and refer
 - identify one notifiable disease and implement procedures to notify.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational policies and procedures for:
 - maintaining client confidentiality
 - documenting health assessments
- local state or territory legal requirements, and associated organisational procedures for reporting notifiable communicable diseases
- organisational responsibilities and role boundaries of those involved in health assessments:
 - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health workers and practitioners
 - medical practitioners, registered nurses and other members of the multidisciplinary care team
- the role of standard treatment protocols in health assessments:
 - types that are used by primary health care organisations including Standard Treatment Manuals (STM) and how to access
 - purpose, format and inclusions
 - how to use to identify physical health assessment requirements
- key information collected and recorded in medical and social histories for health assessments and how this may differ according to the age of the client
- key elements of routine physical health assessments and how types of examinations and tests may differ according to the age of the client and their presentations
- different types of infection control precautions and when these would be used for different types of physical examinations and tests
- equipment and procedures for health examinations and tests, and 'normal' reference range for adults:
 - height, weight, waist circumference and body mass index
 - temperature
 - blood pressure, pulse rate and rhythm
 - respiratory and peak flow rate
 - examination of:

- eyes, including physical examination and vision test
- ears and hearing, including otoscopy
- mouth, throat, teeth and gums
- skin
- hands and feet including observations for infective and fungal issues, oedema, abnormalities in the structure and shape, and nerve damage
- chest including visual and aural observation of respiration for any signs of congestion or distress
- abdomen including visual observation
- urinalysis via dipstick testing
- blood glucose test with a blood glucose testing meter
- understanding of anatomy and physiology sufficient to identify major body systems, associated organs and their overall functions:
 - circulatory system
 - digestive system
 - endocrine system
 - immune system
 - integumentary system
 - musculoskeletal system
 - nervous system
 - reproductive system for females and males
 - respiratory system
 - urinary system
- common short term and uncomplicated health conditions (those that would generally respond to a course of treatment or ongoing self-care), common presenting signs and symptoms and required examinations:
 - respiratory tract infections
 - eye, ear and mouth infections
 - bacterial, viral, fungal and parasitic skin infections
 - digestive and gastrointestinal conditions including gastroenteritis
 - urinary tract infections
- for chronic and communicable diseases of high incidence in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander populations, the major risk factors, signs and symptoms that would trigger referral for investigation:
 - cardiovascular disease
 - chronic respiratory disease, including asthma and obstructive lung disease
 - chronic kidney disease
 - chronic liver disease
 - cancer
 - diabetes
 - musculoskeletal conditions, including arthritis

- eye, ear and oral disease
- sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- blood borne viruses including HIV, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C
- communicable diseases of current significance in the local state, territory or local community.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in a health service workplace within a multidisciplinary primary health care team.

Evidence of performance must be gathered:

- during on-the-job assessments in the workplace under live conditions while interacting with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, or
- during off-the-job assessments in the workplace, not under live conditions, using simulated activities while interacting with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

Evidence of workplace performance can be gathered and reported through third party report processes. (Refer to the Companion Volume Implementation Guide for information on third party reporting.)

Evidence can be supplemented by assessments in a simulated workplace environment using simulated activities, scenarios or case studies only when:

- the full range of situations covered by the unit cannot be provided in the individual's workplace, or
- situations covered by the unit occur only rarely in the individual's workplace.

Assessment must ensure the use of:

- personal protective equipment for infection control
- medical equipment and consumables used for health assessments
- clinical waste and sharps disposal bins
- client records
- template forms or reports for documenting client histories, assessment details and results
- health assessment standard treatment protocols used by the organisation, which can include Standard Treatment Manuals
- organisational procedures for:
 - maintaining client confidentiality
 - documenting health assessments
 - reporting notifiable communicable diseases.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and:

- be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who has applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency through experience working as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health worker or practitioner, or

- be a registered health practitioner with experience relevant to this unit of competency and be accompanied by, or have assessments validated by, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>