



Australian Government

HLTASXH002 Promote women's sexual health

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to provide clients with information about women's sexual health issues and the prevalence of problems in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander populations, and to encourage prevention and early detection of sexual health problems.

The unit has a strong focus on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) but also requires the ability to provide information about sexual and reproductive health conditions. STIs include blood borne viruses, and information would cover their transmission via modes other than sexual contact.

It requires the ability to discuss risk factors, ways to reduce the risk of STIs and reproductive issues, and to inform clients about screening programs. It covers the coordination of follow-up for any clients who advise of any health concerns.

Information may be provided to individual clients in the course of general health service provision, or during dedicated group education sessions.

This unit is specific to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people working as health workers or health practitioners. They work as part of a multidisciplinary primary health care team to provide primary health care services and health education activities to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State or Territory legislation, Australian standards and industry codes of practice.

No regulatory requirement for certification, occupational or business licensing is linked to this unit at the time of publication. For information about practitioner registration and accredited courses of study, contact the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (ATSIHPBA).

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Sexual Health

Unit Sector

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Provide information on sexual health and wellbeing.
2. Provide information on sexually transmitted infections and promote prevention.
3. Promote early detection of sexually transmitted infections.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- 1.1. Show respect for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community values, beliefs and gender roles in all interactions.
- 1.2. Provide information on women's sexual and reproductive health in ways that address connections to emotional wellbeing.
- 1.3. Canvass social issues and attitudes that impact on the sexual safety and wellbeing of women.
- 1.4. Provide advice about maintaining sexual and reproductive health.
- 1.5. Explain methods of contraception including advantages disadvantages and levels of effectiveness.
- 1.6. Encourage client questions and check understanding of information through appropriate questioning.
- 2.1. Communicate consistently in culturally appropriate and safe ways with clients, using plain language.
- 2.2. Provide information about the incidence of STIs in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities.
- 2.3. Explain to clients the nature of different types of STIs, impacts, potential complications and dangers of leaving infections untreated.
- 2.4. Explain risk factors for STIs and blood borne viruses and how these are transmitted via sexual contact and other modes.
- 2.5. Discuss sexual practices and their impact on sexual and reproductive health and emotional wellbeing.
- 2.6. Promote safe sex practices and other STI risk-reduction strategies.
- 2.7. Use visual aids and provide culturally appropriate consumer based education resources to support client understanding.
- 3.1. Discuss common signs and symptoms of STIs and the importance of early detection.
- 3.2. Explain to clients importance of regular check-ups and screening tests in the early detection of STIs.
- 3.3. Promote availability of STI screening programs and advise how clients can access services.
- 3.4. Describe STI examination and test procedures in ways that reduce client resistance and fear of participating.

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| 4. Encourage clients to discuss sexual health and other concerns. | <p>4.1. Provide opportunities for women to share information about their sexual and reproductive health and personal safety.</p> <p>4.2. Establish trust with client by demonstrating and respecting confidentiality.</p> <p>4.3. Support women to identify and discuss any concerns that could indicate health problems, and personal safety issues.</p> <p>4.4. Recognise situations requiring further investigation or support and take appropriate action, according to organisational procedures.</p> |
| 5. Evaluate effectiveness of health education activities. | <p>5.1. Seek and evaluate feedback from clients about value of information and education resources provided.</p> <p>5.2. Evaluate effectiveness of information provided from own perspective and identify areas for improvement.</p> <p>5.3. Provide ongoing feedback to relevant people based on clients' views and own input.</p> |

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.

SKILLS	DESCRIPTION
Reading skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpret detailed and sometimes unfamiliar plain language consumer based education resources.
Oral communication skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide information to clients using plain language and terms easily understood • use appropriate terms to tailor discussions to clients of different ages across the lifespan and sexual orientation • ask open and closed probe questions and actively listen to determine client understanding of information.
Numeracy skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpret statistics presented as percentages and in charts and graphs.
Learning skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use information provided in credible evidence based consumer resources to update and extend knowledge of different types of sexual health issues.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTAHW027 Provide information and strategies in sexual health for women.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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