



Australian Government

HLTDEN024 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTDEN024 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTDEN024 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTDEN024 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people supersedes and is equivalent to HLTDEN010 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people.

Application

This unit of competency describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to promote oral health for older people.

This unit applies to dental assistants and other health care workers who are actively involved in promoting the general well-being of older patients through the promotion of healthy eating habits and good oral health.

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

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Dental Assisting

Unit Sector

Dental

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Assess the oral health needs of an older person.

2. Provide support for the maintenance of oral hygiene for older persons.

3. Implement practical solutions to promote oral health.

4. Maintain oral health of people in residential aged care.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Check medical and dental history with patient or carer to confirm up-to-date information and confirm with treating practitioner prior to treatment.
- 1.2. Actively encourage patient to discuss oral health problems without embarrassment.
- 1.3. Identify oral health problems for older people and their relationship to general health problems.
- 1.4. Identify individualised factors that increase the risk of oral disease for older persons.
- 1.5. Look in patient's mouth while cleaning or assisting with oral care.
- 1.6. Identify patients with natural teeth, those who wear dentures and those who are non-denture wearers.
- 1.7. Identify problems that require referral to a dental practitioner.
- 2.1. Ensure flexibility of oral hygiene instruction taking into consideration patient's individual circumstances.
- 2.2. Provide an appropriate environment for oral hygiene instruction.
- 2.3. Plan and provide oral hygiene information to patients and carers using language and in a manner they can understand.
- 3.1. Explain to patients and carers the importance of regular dental care to maintain quality of life.
- 3.2. Recommend lifestyle changes to assist the older person's diminished salivary flow in consultation with dental practitioner.
- 3.3. Provide appropriate information to patients and carers for healthy food habits that support oral health.
- 3.4. Actively encourage patients or carers to clean teeth or dentures after meals.
- 3.5. Engage carers with appropriate oral health care promotion programs and resources.
- 4.1. Ensure all removable dentures are identifiable with patient's details.
- 4.2. Record oral health in the patient's personal care plan.
- 4.3. Implement individual oral health programs in consultation with dental practitioner.

- 4.4. Assist patients with special needs to clean their teeth.
- 4.5. Assist patients or their carers to clean and maintain dentures.

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

HLTDEN024 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people supersedes and is equivalent to HLTDEN010 Implement an oral hygiene program for older people.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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