



Australian Government

CHCCCS003 Increase the safety of individuals at risk of suicide

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	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. Significant change to the elements and performance criteria. New evidence requirements for assessment including volume and frequency requirements. Significant changes to knowledge evidence.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge to identify and manage immediate suicide risk and work with the individual to achieve safe outcomes. It includes the requirements for developing a clear safety plan for addressing any immediate danger to the person at risk or others, mobilising access to emergency medical help when needed and facilitating links with further support.

This unit applies to people in formal helping roles in any community service context. Suicide safety may involve face-to-face, telephone or remote contact with the person involved.

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

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements define the essential outcomes

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

1. Identify and assess the person's current suicide risk

1.1 Recognise and respond to signs indicating that a person may be considering suicide

1.2 Explore any indications, direct or indirect, that the person may be considering suicide

1.3 Ask specifically about thoughts of suicide whenever there are grounds for concern

1.4 Inform and facilitate the intervention by seeking understanding of why the person is considering suicide

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

Elements define the essential outcomes

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and what links them to life

2. Collaborate to increase immediate safety

2.1 Build a collaborative empathic helping relationship that acknowledges how thoughts of suicide and the pain behind them may affect their safety

2.2 Listen to what lies behind any thoughts of suicide while affirming and strengthening life connections and safety support

2.3 Work with the person to develop and implement a safety plan that reduces immediate danger to the person and others

2.4 Mobilise access to emergency services when needed

2.5 Comply with all laws, relevant ethical guidelines and policy requirements that affect duty of care and seek any advice from workplace supervisor

3. Facilitate links to further support

3.1 Empower the person at risk to make informed choices about further help

3.2 Maintain rapport to encourage discussion of on-going concerns

3.3 Help the person identify coping strategies to manage recurrence of suicidal thoughts

3.4 Determine whether underlying mental health concerns or personal circumstances are present and facilitate access to appropriate help

3.5 Explore possible barriers to seeking or accepting help and develop responses

3.6 Explore what has helped the person survive any previous suicide attempts

3.7 Develop a plan with the individual that includes agreed first steps to access and use informal supports and professional help

3.8 Refer to appropriate professionals as required

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

Elements define the essential outcomes

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

4. Review and report on support provided

4.1 Document suicide safety plan and follow up action according to evidence informed standards of care and relevant organisation requirements

4.2 Communicate relevant information to work colleagues and other people working with the person

4.3 Reflect on own role in providing support and use learning to enhance future practice

4.4 Identify and respond to the need for own supervision and debriefing

Foundation Skills

The Foundation Skills describe those required skills (such as language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills) that are essential to performance.

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

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5e0c25cc-3d9d-4b43-80d3-bd22cc4f1e53>

Assessment Requirements for CHCCCS003 Increase the safety of individuals at risk of suicide

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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:

- responded to at least 3 different situations where there is risk of suicide

Knowledge Evidence

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

- indicators of potential suicide risk, including risk of any type of self-harm
- principles and practices of suicide intervention, including:
 - assessment
 - suicide safety
 - facilitating emergency interventions
 - identifying safe actions to implement safety plans
 - facilitation of on-going support
- referral options and procedures for accessing services
- procedures for facilitating emergency interventions
- personal values, beliefs and attitudes that facilitate or impede suicide intervention:
 - assumptions about who may be at risk
 - common notions about suicide
 - assumptions about what might keep someone safe or unsafe

- consideration of how the presence of mental health concerns might influence the helper's intervention role and inform referral options
- principles and practices of self-care and supervision
- legal and ethical considerations and how these are applied in an organisation and individual practice, including:
 - duty of care
 - privacy, confidentiality and disclosure
 - work role boundaries – responsibilities and limitations

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources including organisation policies and procedures
- modelling typical workplace conditions, including:
 - typical workplace reporting processes
 - scenarios and simulations of crisis situations appropriate to the industry sector
 - scenarios and simulations that reflect real working conditions by modelling industry operating conditions and contingencies

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

Links

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