



Australian Government

HLTAHA030 Assist with basic foot care

Release: 1

HLTAHA030 Assist with basic foot care

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to a registered Podiatrist. Work includes foot care, including skin and nail care and applying dressings, padding and cushioning.

This unit applies to Allied Health Assistants and should be performed under the direct, indirect or remote supervision and delegation of a registered Podiatrist.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Allied Health Assistant Framework, Commonwealth and State or 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

Allied Health

Unit Sector

Health

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Receive delegation and gather information.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Obtain written or verbal delegation for an allied health activity from the registered Podiatrist.
- 1.2. Obtain information from relevant sources and delegating registered Podiatrist, according to organisational policy and procedures.
- 1.3. Discuss and confirm with delegating registered Podiatrist treatment plans and programs.

2. Prepare for basic foot care.
 - 2.1. Obtain information according to organisational procedures and delegating registered Podiatrist.
 - 2.2. Determine the person's availability according to organisational protocols.
 - 2.3. Check resources and equipment required for therapy program to ensure suitability, cleanliness and working order.
 - 2.4. Undertake steps to meet organisational infection control requirements.
 - 2.5. Prepare for basic foot care as delegated by the supervising registered Podiatrist to comply with legislation, regulatory and organisational practice requirements.
3. Perform basic foot care.
 - 3.1. Provide information to the person regarding foot care treatment.
 - 3.2. Confirm the person's understanding of the purpose, rationale and requirements of each part of the foot care treatment.
 - 3.3. Identify and report to registered Podiatrist any changes that effect the person's health status.
 - 3.4. Assist the person in and out of any shoes, socks or hosiery complying with organisational and work health and safety (WHS) protocols.
 - 3.5. Position the person in preparation for foot care treatment.
 - 3.6. Perform basic foot care according to the delegation of the Podiatrist and apply infection control precautions, especially in relation to air borne particles.
4. Apply padding and cushioning as delegated by the supervising registered Podiatrist.
 - 4.1. Explain the purpose and rationale of the dressing, padding or cushioning and confirm the person's understanding.
 - 4.2. Correctly position the person, complying with work health and safety (WHS) protocols.
 - 4.3. Apply padding and cushioning according to delegation of registered Podiatrist.
 - 4.4. Apply delegated dressings to any skin breaks which might result from treatment.
 - 4.5. Dispose of used padding and cushioning according to infection control protocols.
 - 4.6. Provide feedback that reinforces the registered Podiatrist's advice.
 - 4.7. Identify the person's compliance issues and seek assistance when presented with issues outside limits of scope of practice or report to delegating registered Podiatrist.
 - 4.8. Work with the person to determine and plan any follow up requirements and dates.

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| 5. Comply with supervisory requirements. | 5.1. Provide podiatry assistance according to the delegation of treating registered Podiatrist.
5.2. Provide feedback regarding the person's progress to the treating registered Podiatrist.
5.3. Report the person's difficulties and concerns to the treating registered Podiatrist.
5.4. Implement variations to the podiatry care according to the delegation of the treating registered Podiatrist. |
| 6. Clean and store equipment. | 6.1. Dispose of biological waste material according to organisational guidelines and infection control requirements.
6.2. Prepare reusable equipment for sterilisation according to Australian Standards, manufacturer and organisational requirements.
6.3. Store equipment according to manufacturer instructions and organisational protocols.
6.4. Report equipment faults according to organisational procedures. |
| 7. Document information. | 7.1. Document occasion of basic foot care according to organisational requirements.
7.2. Use medical terminology and abbreviations to document symptomatic expression of the person's identified foot care problems. |

Foundation Skills

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

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTAHA006 Assist with basic foot hygiene.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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

Assessment Requirements for HLTAHA030 Assist with basic foot care

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:

- assist with basic foot care using podiatry equipment across private, community and bed-based settings to at least three people, one in a simulated environment and two in the workplace, this must include:
 - cutting and filing nails
 - electrical equipment, including an electric drill
 - identifying pathological nail and skin conditions
 - applying medicaments, including:
 - emollients
 - astringents
 - moisturisers
 - antiseptics
- apply padding and cushioning to at least 3 different conditions
- apply wound dressings to at least 3 different conditions, including:
 - simple wound
 - wound dressing for an iatrogenic wound
- perform the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 120 hours of allied health assistance work. At least 60% of this work must be carried out in an allied health workplace. The remaining 40% may be carried out in a simulated environment, if an allied health workplace is unavailable.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- protocols for the escalation of risks
- allied health core competencies:
 - person-centred care
 - individual therapy
 - group therapy
 - communication of information
 - equipment and environment

- treatment plans or foot care plan
- goals and limitations of podiatry intervention and variations in podiatry conditions
- basic anatomy and physiology of the foot, including medical terminology, structure and functioning of the skin and integuments, and basic understanding of foot pathology
- the function of medicaments:
 - emollients
 - astringents
 - moisturisers
 - antiseptics
- principles and protocols of:
 - aseptic technique
 - foot care
- organisational policy and procedures in relation to:
 - confidentiality:
 - privacy
 - disclosure
 - duty of care
 - documentation:
 - reporting
 - recording data
 - written communication to Allied Health Professional
 - professional behaviour and presentation
 - infection control practices
 - work health and safety (WHS)
 - manual handling
 - supervision and delegation
- manufacturer instructions for equipment
- scope of practice of the Allied Health Assistant and registered Podiatrist
- principles of empowering the older person
- principles of empowering people living with disability or serious mental illness
- changes related to ageing
- concepts of holistic health and wellbeing
- social determinants of health
- concepts of the medical model, the biopsychosocial models and the human rights-based approach of allied health interventions
- principles of choice and control
- concept of reablement
- allied health settings:
 - hospital
 - community health
 - mental health

- disability sector
- aged care sectors.

Assessment Conditions

Skills may be demonstrated in the workplace, or in a simulated environment, as per the conditions outlined in the performance evidence.

Assessment must ensure:

- access to suitable facilities, equipment and resources that reflect real working conditions and model industry operating conditions and contingencies
- access to manufacturer instructions
- access to individualised plans and any relevant equipment outlined in the plan
- podiatry instruments, products and electrical equipment including:
 - wound dressings
 - padding and cushioning
 - medicaments
 - electric drill
- access to organisational policies and procedures
- opportunities for engagement with real people accessing allied health services.

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

- be a Certificate IV qualified Allied Health Assistant with a minimum of three years of professional experience in allied health services; or
- a registered Podiatrist.

Links

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