



Australian Government

HLTAHA034 Support the development of speech and communication skills

Release: 1

HLTAHA034 Support the development of speech and communication skills

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to a Speech Pathologist. Work includes supporting delivery of speech pathology programs designed to achieve and develop speech and communication skills.

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

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 Speech Pathologist.
- 1.2. Obtain information from delegating Speech Pathologist, according to organisational policy and procedures.
- 1.3. Discuss and confirm with delegating Speech Pathologist treatment plans and programs and identify requirements

outside scope of role.

2. Prepare for delivery of a speech pathology program.
 - 2.1. Determine the person's availability according to organisational protocols.
 - 2.2. Confirm with the person and delegating Speech Pathologist the need for an interpreter.
 - 2.3. Prepare equipment to deliver speech pathology program, in relation to work health and safety (WHS) requirements and as specified by the delegating Speech Pathologist.
3. Deliver speech pathology program under supervision of Speech Pathologist.
 - 3.1. Ensure consent is obtained from the individual, or a third party where applicable.
 - 3.2. Confirm the therapeutic outcomes defined in the program with the person and the delegating Speech Pathologist.
 - 3.4. Deliver activities as detailed in the treatment plan and as specified by the delegating Speech Pathologist.
 - 3.5. Use motivators and provide input that reflect age and communication ability of the person.
 - 3.6. Provide the person with time, opportunity and encouragement to practise existing and newly developed skills.
 - 3.7. Encourage the person to take advantage of planned and unplanned opportunities to integrate skills developed within the program into their daily activities.
 - 3.8. Respond to adverse reaction to the program according to the organisational procedures.
 - 3.9. Provide feedback where goals are not being met according to the person's needs, to the delegating Speech Pathologist and the person's care team to support future planning.
4. Assist with developing activities to support speech pathology program.
 - 4.1. Identify the communication goals to be achieved from the speech pathology plan as specified by the delegating Speech Pathologist.
 - 4.2. Develop activities, in consultation with the delegating Speech Pathologist to achieve speech pathology goals.
 - 4.3. Assist with the location or development of activities and materials reflective of the person's age and level of functioning.
 - 4.4. Confirm development work with delegating Speech Pathologist.
5. Comply with supervisory requirements.
 - 5.1. Seek assistance when the person presents with needs or signs outside scope of role.
 - 5.2. Report the person's difficulties to the delegating Speech Pathologist before continuing the program.
 - 5.3. Participate in supervision processes with the delegating Speech Pathologist in accordance with organisational

procedures.

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| 6. Clean and store equipment and materials. | 6.1. Clean equipment and materials in accordance with manufacturer requirements. |
| | 6.2. Store equipment and materials in accordance with manufacturer requirements and organisational procedures. |
| | 6.3. Report equipment faults in accordance with organisational procedures. |
| 7. Document information. | 7.1. Document information relating to the person's speech pathology program in line with organisational requirements. |
| | 7.2. Provide regular feedback to the delegating Speech Pathologist. |
| | 7.3. Use professional terminology to document symptomatic expression of identified problems related to the person's speech pathology program. |

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 HLTAHA012 Support the development of speech and communication skills.

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 HLTAHA034 Support the development of speech and communication skills

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:

- work with three different people, one in simulation and two in the workplace, for speech or language therapeutic outcomes following an established speech pathology program.
- 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 escalation of risks
- allied health core competencies:
 - person-centred care
 - individual therapy
 - group therapy
 - communication of information
 - equipment and environment
- scope of practice of the Allied Health Assistant and the Speech Pathologist
- normal speech and language functions across the lifespan
- the range of communication disorders affecting areas of:
 - speech including articulation, phonology
 - expressive and receptive language
 - reading and writing
 - pragmatics
 - fluency
 - voice
 - cognitive skills including memory, attention, new learning, problem solving
- communication disorders that may arise from:
 - congenital abnormalities
 - developmental delay

- acquired injury and disease
- degenerative disease
- the anatomy and physiology of the body systems pertaining to structures and systems affecting communication
- organisational policies and procedures in relation to:
 - confidentiality:
 - privacy
 - disclosure
 - duty of care
 - documentation:
 - reporting
 - recording data
 - manufacturer instructions
 - written communication to Speech Pathologist
 - professional behaviour and presentation
 - infection control practices
 - work health and safety (WHS)
 - manual handling
 - supervision and delegation
 - discrimination
 - informed consent.

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
- 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 Speech Pathologist.

Links

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