



Australian Government

HLTAHA048 Provide allied health assistance in remote or isolated settings

Release: 1

HLTAHA048 Provide allied health assistance in remote or isolated settings

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to an Allied Health Professional. Work includes adapting practice in response to the unique working conditions in remote or isolated settings that are impacted by isolation and distance with restricted access to specialist health practitioners and services.

This unit applies to Allied Health Assistants and should be performed under the direct, indirect or remote supervision and delegation of an Allied Health Professional (AHP).

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. Establish the impact of rural and remote context on practice.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Establish the systemic impacts of location on healthcare services as a context for work.
- 1.2. Recognise individual situations where time, distance and environmental issues may affect a person's care.
- 1.3. Confirm agreed methods of communication between the

- person and delegating Allied Health Professional.
- 1.4. Identify gaps, benefits and limitations of health care or community service options and capacity for effective response.
 - 1.5. Engage with the healthcare or community network to determine the interrelationships and opportunities for collaborative work practice.
2. Adjust practices to the rural and remote context.
 - 2.1. Consult with the Allied Health Professional concerns or issues raised by presenting person.
 - 2.2. Use emerging health technologies to provide allied health services to geographically isolated people.
 - 2.3. Apply collaborative practice models, which are efficient, sustainable, flexible and customised to ensure a responsive approach to rapidly changing needs of healthcare required or access to community services.
 3. Contribute to improved outcomes in rural and remote communities.
 - 3.1. Review own practice and professional isolation in the work environment and identify opportunities for professional development.
 - 3.2. Use professional and community collaboration and networking to inform practice improvements.
 - 3.3. Identify and take opportunities to empower community members to seek healthcare and participate in health initiatives.
 - 3.4. Identify symptoms of stress and professional burnout in self, peers and colleagues, and provide support and advice within organisational procedures, work health and safety (WHS) requirements and authorised scope of practice.

Foundation Skills

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=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>

Assessment Requirements for HLTAHA048 Provide allied health assistance in remote or isolated settings

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 in accordance with professional codes of practice, standards and guidelines as part of the multidisciplinary health care team in a rural and remote workplace setting, to provide interventions for at least three people as delegated by the Allied Health Professional
- interventions for each of the above three people must include:
 - allied health activities under distant supervision - remote service delivery
 - telehealth consultations for delegated allied health activities
 - communications between the Allied Health Professional and the person including via:
 - phone
 - video conferencing
- 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

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

- allied health core competencies:
 - person-centred care
 - individual therapy
 - group therapy
 - communication of information
 - equipment and environment
- codes of conduct for health practitioners
- organisational policies 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
- contingency plans to deal with situations when delegating Allied Health Professional is unavailable
- changing demands for services in rural and remote communities in Australia
- current economic, political and socio-economic factors impacting rural and remote health care including:
 - funding arrangements including federal, State/ Territories and local government that impact availability of health services and health programs
 - expansion of scope of practice for the allied health professions
 - shortage in health workforce
 - ageing population
 - prevalence of chronic disease
 - social disadvantage
 - social determinants
- organisations in rural and remote areas and models of healthcare provided including:
 - Consumer Directed Care (CDC)
 - mobile health service
 - Person-Centred Care (PCC)
 - Primary Health Care (PHC)
 - tertiary level care - community or regional hospital
 - advance care planning
- team practice models used in rural and remote contexts:
 - team 'shared care' approach
 - total person care or person focused care
- remote considerations in the provision of care including:
 - how and when to access emergency response services
 - communication systems, equipment and methods available in remote situations
 - ways in which the care approach may be adjusted in the rural and remote context
 - availability of other community and support networks that provide interim support
 - social isolation and the scope of role of the Allied Health Assistant to foster personal relations as support network
 - importance of establishing local networks and reputation to support the delivery of care

- confidentiality and professional boundaries
- emerging health technologies, their features and how they are used and accessed:
 - Telehealth services
 - mobile health services
 - hospital in the home services
- types of participants in a rural and remote multidisciplinary health care team and their roles
- organisational processes and how they may be adapted and used in rural and remote context
- community-based health services, public health services, social health care programs and health promotion programs
- local and community culture including culturally appropriate healthcare delivery
- types and benefits of communication equipment
- 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
- facilitation of advanced care planning
- 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 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 in rural health work.

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 Allied Health Professional.

Links

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