



Australian Government

HLTAHA051 Assist with podiatric procedures

Release: 1

HLTAHA051 Assist with podiatric procedures

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to a Podiatrist. Work includes assistance with minor surgical procedures of the skin and nails and preparation, modification and repair of orthotic devices and footwear.

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

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Allied Health Assistant Framework, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines, 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 a Podiatrist.
- 1.2. Obtain information from relevant sources and delegating Podiatrist, according to organisational policy and procedures.
- 1.3. Discuss and confirm with delegating Podiatrist a podiatry

- care plan relevant to the procedure to be undertaken and work health and safety (WHS) requirements.
2. Prepare for the surgical podiatry procedure.
 - 2.1. Determine person's availability according to organisational protocols.
 - 2.2. Conform to all specified NHMRC infection control guidelines and organisational protocols for Podiatrist.
 - 2.3. Ensure the environment in which the procedure is to be performed conforms to infection control, health safety requirements and organisational policies and procedures.
 - 2.4. Gather necessary equipment, instruments and materials.
 - 2.5. Prepare the environment for minor surgery, including cleansing and disinfecting of surfaces, equipment and materials.
 - 2.6. Ensure all instruments, dressings and related materials have undergone sterilisation according to Australian Standards, organisational policies and procedures.
 - 2.7. Ensure workflow and set up for workflow by additional persons in the environment complies with Australian Standards, NHMRC Infection Prevention Control Guidelines, and organisational policies and procedures.
 3. Assist with the surgical podiatry procedure.
 - 3.1. Determine procedural requirements from the person's records and the treating Podiatrist.
 - 3.2. Provide the physical environment required to meet procedural requirements in a manner that is safe and conforms with infection control protocols as delegated by the Podiatrist.
 - 3.3. Follow the directions of the Podiatrist to provide assistance during the procedure.
 - 3.4. Follow all infection control and WHS protocols to ensure the procedure conforms to legislated requirements and organisational policies and procedures.
 - 3.5. Assist with care and supervision of the person during and immediately after procedure.
 - 3.6. Follow directions for instrument handling, equipment handling material handling and any additional assistance required from the Podiatrist and within a sterile environment.
 - 3.7. Safely and correctly use equipment and instrumentation to collect assessment information.
 - 3.8. Follow Australian Standards organisational policies and procedures for the safe handling and disposal of hazardous and sharps materials.
 - 3.9. Provide documentation assistance and support as directed by the Podiatrist.

4. Assist with templating for manufacture of orthotic devices.
 - 4.1. Determine requirements from the person's records and treating Podiatrist.
 - 4.2. Gather equipment and materials required for templating and foot measurement.
 - 4.3. Provide the physical environment required to meet procedural requirements in a manner that is safe as directed by the Podiatrist.
 - 4.5. Assist with templating and foot measurement according to delegating Podiatrist's instruction.
 - 4.6. Work with delegating Podiatrist according to organisational policies and procedures, to determine follow up and further appointments.
5. Assist with modification to orthoses and footwear.
 - 5.1. Determine procedural requirements from the person's records and the treating Podiatrist.
 - 5.2. Seek assistance or clarification to procedural directions.
 - 5.3. Provide the physical environment required to meet procedural requirements in a manner that is safe.
 - 5.4. Assist with modifications according to the treatment plan and prescriptions from supervising Podiatrist.
 - 5.5. Present modified orthoses or footwear to Podiatrist for assessment.
 - 5.6. Interpret and respond to instructions from delegating Podiatrist regarding further procedural or modification requirements.
 - 5.7. Provide instructions and assistance as directed by the Podiatrist.
 - 5.8. Work with Podiatrist and person according to organisational policies and procedures, to determine follow up and further appointments.
 - 5.9. Use machinery and equipment for modifications in accordance with manufacturer guidelines, WHS requirements and organisational policies and procedures.
6. Assist with support and advice to person in the selection of footwear.
 - 6.1. Under the supervision of the Podiatrist use devices and procedures to measure for fit.
 - 6.2. Confirm measurements with supervising Podiatrist.
 - 6.3. Under the supervision of the Podiatrist support and educate person in the selection of footwear and fit.
 - 6.4. Seek assistance or clarification to procedural directions.
 - 6.5. Work with Podiatrist and person according to organisational policies and procedures, to determine follow up and further appointments.
7. Comply with supervisory
 - 7.1. Provide podiatry assistance according to the instruction of delegating Podiatrist.

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| requirements. | 7.2. Provide progress feedback to the treating Podiatrist. |
| | 7.3. Seek assistance when person presents with needs or signs outside limits of own scope of role. |
| | 7.4. Report difficulties and concerns to the delegating Podiatrist. |
| | 7.5. Implement variations to the podiatry care in accordance with the delegating Podiatrist. |
| 8. Clean, sterilise and store equipment. | 8.1. Clean equipment according to manufacturer instructions and organisational policies and procedures. |
| | 8.2. Prepare equipment and instruments for sterilisation according to Australian Standards, NHMRC infection control guidelines and organisational policies and procedures. |
| | 8.3. Store equipment according to manufacturer instructions and organisational policies and procedures. |
| | 8.4. Report equipment faults according to organisational policies and procedures. |
| | 8.5. Ensure the consultation environment is maintained according to NHMRC infection control guidelines and organisational policies and procedures. |
| 9. Document information. | 9.1. Follow organisational policies and procedures to document person's information. |
| | 9.2. Use health terminology when documenting person's information. |

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 HLTAHA007 Assist with podiatric procedures.

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 HLTAHA051 Assist with podiatric procedures

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 a minimum of seven different procedures, including:
 - minor surgical procedure assistance
 - basic screening
 - orthotic or footwear preparation and modification
- work safely and effectively with electrical equipment, machinery, hazardous and other materials including:
 - animal derived leathers
 - synthetics
 - solvents
 - adhesives
- 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:

- podiatry procedures, including:
 - orthotic manufacture or modification
 - screening
 - minor podiatry surgical procedures
- conditions treated by a Podiatrist
- basic anatomy and physiology of the skin and nails relevant for the role
- structure and function of the skin and integuments
- common pathological conditions of the skin and nails
- disease processes relevant to the person group/s
- identification and purpose of podiatry surgical instruments
- basic biomechanics of the lower limb
- principles and guidelines of orthotic devices

- principles of footwear selection and fitting
- treatment plans, foot care or podiatry plans
- goals and limitations of podiatry intervention
- medical terminology in relation to podiatric procedures
- organisational policies and procedures relating to:
 - confidentiality:
 - privacy
 - disclosure
 - duty of care
 - documentation:
 - reporting
 - recording data
 - written communication to Podiatrist
 - professional behaviour and presentation
 - work health and safety (WHS)
 - manual handling
 - supervisory requirements and delegation
- NHMRC infection control guidelines
- scope of practice of the Allied Health Assistant and 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
- manufacturer instructions
- allied health settings:
 - hospital
 - community health
 - mental health
 - disability sector
 - aged care sectors
 - private practice.

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
- manufacturer instructions
- individualised plans and any relevant equipment outlined in the plan
- 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.

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