



Australian Government

HLTAHW059 Provide postnatal and infant health care

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Updated: • assessor requirements statement • foundation skills lead in statement • licensing statement • modification history to reflect 2012 standards Equivalent outcome.
Release 1	This version was released in <i>HLT Health Training Package release 1.0</i> and meets the requirements of the 2012 Standards for Training Packages. Significant changes to elements and performance criteria. New evidence requirements for assessment, including volume and environment requirements. Prerequisite units removed.

Application

This unit describes the required skills and knowledge to provide Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander women, infants and their families with specialist health care services in postnatal and infant health.

This unit applies to those Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers working independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team to deliver primary health care services to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients and communities.

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 specify the level of performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1. Provide health information, support and care after birth for

1.1 Perform maternal and infant physical assessment and record observations of mother and infant in line with

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

Elements define the essential outcomes.

Performance criteria specify the level of performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

women, infants and families

standard protocols and organisational guidelines

1.2 Provide information and support for self-care and wellbeing in the postnatal period

1.3 Provide advice on routine care of the newborn to mothers and refer as appropriate and within organisational guidelines and/or procedures

1.4 Implement strategies to establish and support breastfeeding

1.5 Discuss with the client the importance of nutrition, exercise, rest, sleep and support with domestic tasks and care of family in the immediate postnatal period

1.6 Identify minor postnatal problems for mother and newborn and provide appropriate advice

1.7 Identify potentially serious health conditions for mother and newborn and refer to senior health staff

1.8 Provide information on contraceptive options

1.9 Deliver, implement and monitor care in the postnatal period as per standard treatment protocols and in accordance with legislative guidelines

1.10 Undertake immediate care in response to at-risk situations

1.11 Observe and support maternal-infant attachment

2. Organise and evaluate maternal health programs

2.1 Maintain registers of women undergoing postnatal care according to organisational policies and procedures

2.2 Keep schedules of participation in postnatal care and use to organise continuing care for women

2.3 Organise and/or provide reminders, transport and other assistance to attend care according to women's needs

2.4 Provide support to other staff participating in provision of postnatal care

2.5 Maintain referral and communication networks with medical staff, specialist obstetricians, midwives, allied health staff, birthing facility staff and female

ELEMENT

Elements define the essential outcomes.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria specify the level of performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

community Elders

2.6 Keep statistics on attendance for antenatal care and birthing outcomes and use to evaluate maternal health programs

Foundation Skills

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

Numeracy

- in order to perform physical assessment of mother and infant, including measuring height, length and weight

Other foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit.

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 HLTAHW059 Provide postnatal and infant health care

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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:

- delivered postnatal health care for at least five clients, including:
 - conducting comprehensive health checks related to postnatal and infant health
 - providing treatment, medicine and other health care services appropriate to postnatal and infant health in a safe and effective manner and within guidelines
 - providing information, guidance and support to clients and their families with postnatal and/or infant health issues
 - monitoring the outcomes of postnatal and infant health care services and making any required revisions to services, care plans or information provided
 - recognising situations requiring immediate or urgent action, and implementing appropriate procedures
 - implementing strategies to support breastfeeding
 - discussing the importance of nutrition, exercise, rest and sleep

- identifying minor postnatal problems for mother and newborn
- communicating effectively with client to:
 - obtain information from client
 - provide advice and information on self-care, wellbeing, routine care of newborns and contraceptive options
 - discuss postnatal and infant health care issues
- recording all observations of mother and/or newborn according to organisation procedures
- maintaining registers of mothers undergoing postnatal care, keeping schedules of participation and statistics on attendance
- supporting mothers and babies to attend follow-up appointments for health services
- supervised at least one staff member participating in postnatal care.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively do the task outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage the task and manage contingencies in the context of the identified work role.

This includes knowledge of:

- key aspects of anatomy/physiology, pharmacology, pathology and basic microbiology relevant to postnatal and infant health
- knowledge of microbiology relevant to postnatal and infant health and prevention of infection or cross infection
- postnatal nutritional needs of women and infants, including support of breastfeeding and other nutritional needs of the infant
- health conditions, obstetric problems and associated issues related to postnatal and infant health
- strategies to:
 - improve maternal and neonatal health in the community
 - address clients presenting with postnatal problems
 - coordinate provision of optimum level of maternal health service delivery
- postnatal medical problems requiring referral
- effective postnatal care practices for mother and baby
- relevant assessment methods and use of associated equipment and testing procedures
- relevant treatments, medicines and associated care services available
- risks and contraindications associated with relevant treatments and medication
- relevant evaluation criteria for monitoring effectiveness of specific postnatal and infant health management program
- organisation policies and procedures, generally, and in particular relating to client confidentiality
- role of the Aboriginal Health Worker in counselling and health education
- vaccination schedules

- minor and major complications of pregnancy and required treatments
- realistic expectation of client condition during monitoring of progress.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated working:

- in a health service or centre
- individually or as a member of a multidisciplinary primary health care team
- with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients and communities.

In addition, simulations and scenarios must be used where the full range of contexts and situations cannot be provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely. These are situations relating to emergency or unplanned procedures where assessment in these circumstances would be unsafe or is impractical.

Simulated assessment environments must simulate the real-life working environment where these skills and knowledge would be performed, with all the relevant equipment and resources of that working environment.

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

Assessment must be undertaken by a workplace assessor who has expertise in this unit of competency and who is:

an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker or:

- accompanied by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience in primary health care

Links

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