



Australian Government

HLTANA004 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version was released in <i>HLT Health Training Package release 2.0</i> and meets the requirements of the 2012 Standards for Training Packages. Significant changes to the elements and performance criteria. New evidence requirements for assessment, including volume and frequency requirements. Significant change to knowledge evidence.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to recognise signs of client deterioration that pose an immediate threat to life and respond appropriately, including the preparation of drugs used in emergency situations.

This unit applies to anaesthetic technicians working under the direction of, and in consultation with, an anaesthetist/medical officer in any hospital or day surgery setting.

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
<i>Elements define the essential outcomes</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element</i>
1. Recognise clinical emergencies	1.1 Recognise signs of deterioration in clients and immediately report to appropriate clinician 2.1 Monitor, interpret and promptly recognise abnormal equipment readings and immediately report abnormal values to anaesthetist/medical staff
2. Respond to clinical emergencies	2.1 Maintain client's vital functions pending attendance of medical staff 2.2 Use communication escalation techniques according

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements define the essential outcomes</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element</i>
	to organisation procedures
	2.3 Promptly obtain emergency equipment and make ready for relevant medical staff
	2.4 Assist the anaesthetist/medical staff to perform any emergency procedures under direction
	2.5 Assist with the medical management of the client and allocate work to other team members according to priority
3. Prepare drugs for administration in emergency situations	3.1 Ensure required drugs, diluents and fluids are to hand
	3.2 Read expiry date for each drug, diluent or fluid and check it has not been exceeded
	3.3 Make accurate calculations to prepare drug to correct nature, quantity and dilution based on medical officer requirements
	3.4 Check drugs with an authorised person prior to and after mixing
	3.5 Use correct equipment and maintain sterility of drug and diluent
	3.6 Check final drug dilution with anaesthetist or medical officer
	3.7 Administer drugs under the direction and supervision of the anaesthetist
	3.8 Complete medication documentation in accordance with organisation policies and procedures
4. Finalise emergency procedures	4.1 Document accurate and complete record of emergency situation and actions taken according to scope of own role
	4.2 Participate in emergency de-brief according to organisation procedures
	4.3 Review own role in emergency and identify potential actions to support future improvement

Foundation Skills

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

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 HLTANA004 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies

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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:

- determined and actioned response to diverse emergency situations, including:
 - respiratory/ airway emergencies:
 - difficult/compromised airway
 - can't intubate can't ventilate
 - bronchospasm
 - pneumothorax
 - laryngospasm
 - aspiration
 - suxamethonium apnoea
 - hypoxia/hypoxaemia
 - hypercarbia
 - cardiac emergencies:
 - ventricular fibrillation
 - ventricular tachycardia
 - pulseless electrical activity
 - asystole
 - third degree heart block
 - cardiac arrhythmias which pose threat to life for individual clients
 - perioperative myocardial infarcts

- cardiac tamponade
- malignant hyperthermia
- hypothermia
- hypovolaemic shock/massive blood loss
- severe hypotension
- severe hypertension
- pulmonary hypertension
- anaphylactic shock
- thromboembolism or pulmonary embolism – fat, thrombus, air/gas, amniotic fluid
- pulmonary oedema & negative pressure pulmonary oedema
- local anaesthetic toxicity
- total spinal
- metabolic and endocrine abnormalities
- drug administration error and adverse drug reaction
- septic shower
- followed established procedures for use of emergency equipment/ consumables, including:
 - difficult airway trolley and other airway and suction equipment
 - cardiac arrest trolley and defibrillator
 - heating/cooling equipment
 - infusion/transfusion equipment
 - monitoring equipment
 - medications
 - chest drains

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of:

- legal and ethical considerations (national, state/territory) for emergencies, and how these are applied in organisations:
 - codes of practice
 - duty of care
 - infection prevention and control
 - informed consent
 - mandatory reporting
 - privacy, confidentiality and disclosure
 - records management
 - rights and responsibilities of workers, employers and clients
 - work role boundaries – responsibilities and limitations in emergencies

- work health and safety
- the following anaesthetic emergencies, their signs, symptoms, physiological and non-physiological causes, treatment or resolution and prediction:
 - respiratory/ airway emergencies:
 - difficult/compromised airway
 - can't intubate can't ventilate
 - bronchospasm
 - pneumothorax
 - laryngospasm
 - aspiration
 - suxamethonium apnoea
 - hypoxia/hypoxaemia
 - hypercarbia
 - cardiac emergencies:
 - ventricular fibrillation
 - ventricular tachycardia
 - pulseless electrical activity
 - asystole
 - third degree heart block
 - cardiac arrhythmias which pose threat to life for individual clients
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 - thromboembolism or pulmonary embolism – fat, thrombus, air/gas, amniotic fluid
 - pulmonary oedema & negative pressure pulmonary oedema
 - local anaesthetic toxicity
 - total spinal
 - metabolic and endocrine abnormalities
 - drug administration error and adverse drug reaction
 - septic shower
- external emergencies including equipment failure, equipment/consumable supply shortage, weather events, fire and power outage
- algorithms used to de-escalate anaesthetic emergencies
- crisis management basic principles including internal and external crisis sources

- methods, principles and procedures for dealing with emergencies, including:
 - problem solving techniques
 - graded assertiveness
 - crisis communication principles
 - clinical handover
 - multidisciplinary team structure and functions
 - situation monitoring/situational awareness
 - massive transfusion protocol
 - Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines
 - Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) *Anaphylaxis guidelines*
 - ANZCA *Malignant hyperthermia guidelines*
- features, functions and safe use of emergency equipment
- emergency drug administration:
 - equipment
 - routes of administration in anaesthesia context
 - types, functions and effects of different drugs
 - legislation and protocols

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including those to simulate management of all emergencies identified in the Performance Evidence:
- modelling of industry operating conditions, including presence of situations requiring problem solving in non-routine situations

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

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