



Australian Government

HLTANA011 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies

Release: 1

HLTANA011 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies

Modification History

Supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTANA004 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to recognise signs of patient 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 or medical officer in any hospital or day surgery setting.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with 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

Anaesthetic Technology

Unit Sector

Health

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Recognise clinical emergencies.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Recognise signs of deterioration in patients and immediately report to appropriate clinician.
- 1.2. Monitor, interpret and promptly recognise abnormal equipment readings and immediately report abnormal values to anaesthetist or medical staff.

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| 2. Respond to clinical emergencies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1. Maintain patient's vital functions pending attendance of medical staff.2.2. Use communication escalation techniques in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.2.3. Promptly obtain emergency equipment and make ready for relevant medical staff.2.4. Assist the anaesthetist or medical staff to perform any emergency procedures under direction.2.5. Assist with the medical management of the patient and allocate work to other team members according to priority. |
| 3. Prepare drugs for administration in emergency situations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1. Ensure required drugs, diluents, fluids and therapeutic substances are readily available.3.2. Read expiry date for each drug, diluent, fluid or substance 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 organisational policies and procedures. |
| 4. Finalise emergency procedures. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">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 in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.4.3. Review own role in emergency and identify potential actions to support future improvement. |

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 HLTANA004 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies.

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 HLTANA011 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies

Modification History

Supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTANA004 Respond to anaesthesia related emergencies.

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:

- determine and action response to each of the following diverse emergency situations on at least one occasion, including:
 - respiratory or airway emergencies:
 - difficult or compromised airway
 - can't intubate can't oxygenate (CICO)
 - bronchospasm
 - pneumothorax
 - laryngospasm
 - aspiration
 - cardiac emergencies:
 - ventricular fibrillation
 - ventricular tachycardia
 - pulseless electrical activity
 - asystole
 - third degree heart block
 - perioperative myocardial infarction
 - cardiac tamponade
 - malignant hyperthermia
 - hypothermia
 - hypovolaemic shock or massive haemorrhage
 - severe hypotension
 - severe hypertension
 - pulmonary hypertension
 - anaphylaxis
 - thromboembolism or pulmonary embolism including fat, thrombus, air or gas, amniotic fluid
 - local anaesthetic toxicity
 - total spinal
 - drug administration error and adverse drug reaction

- follow established procedures for use of each of the following emergency equipment and consumables on at least one occasion, including:
 - difficult airway trolley and other airway and suction equipment
 - cardiac arrest trolley and defibrillator
 - heating and cooling equipment
 - infusion or transfusion equipment
 - monitoring equipment
 - medications, fluids and therapeutic substances
 - chest drains
 - invasive access and invasive monitoring.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- legal and ethical considerations, national, state or 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 patients
 - work role boundaries including 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 or airway emergencies:
 - difficult or compromised airway
 - airway fires
 - can't intubate can't oxygenate (CICO)
 - bronchospasm
 - pneumothorax
 - laryngospasm
 - aspiration
 - suxamethonium apnoea
 - hypoxia or hypoxaemia
 - hypercarbia
 - anaphylaxis

- cardiac emergencies:
 - ventricular fibrillation
 - ventricular tachycardia
 - pulseless electrical activity
 - asystole
 - third degree heart block
 - cardiac arrhythmias which pose threat to life for individual patients
 - perioperative myocardial infarctions
 - cardiac tamponade
- malignant hyperthermia
- hypothermia
- hypovolaemic shock or massive haemorrhage
- severe hypotension
- severe hypertension
- pulmonary hypertension
- anaphylaxis
- thromboembolism or pulmonary embolism including fat, thrombus, air or gas, amniotic fluid
- pulmonary oedema
- local anaesthetic toxicity
- total spinal
- diabetes
- metabolic and endocrine abnormalities
- drug administration error and adverse drug reaction
- septic shower
- thyroid storm
- external emergencies including equipment failure, equipment and consumable supply shortage, weather events, fire and power outage
- algorithms used to escalate anaesthetic emergencies
- crisis resource management (CRM) 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 or situational awareness
 - massive transfusion protocol
 - Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) guidelines

- Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) Anaphylaxis guidelines
- ANZCA Malignant hyperthermia guidelines
- Vortex Approach for airway management
- Difficult Airway Society guidelines or ANZCA guidelines for the management of Evolving Airway Obstruction: Transition to the CICO airway emergency
- features, functions and safe use of emergency equipment
- emergency drug, fluid and therapeutic substance administration:
 - equipment
 - routes of administration in anaesthesia context
 - types, functions and effects of different drugs, fluids and therapeutic substances
 - legislation and protocols.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- 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' requirements for assessors.

Links

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