



Australian Government

HLTANA013 Assist with clinical procedures used in anaesthesia

Release: 1

HLTANA013 Assist with clinical procedures used in anaesthesia

Modification History

Supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTANA006 Assist with clinical procedures used in anaesthesia.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to plan and prepare for anaesthesia for a range of surgical specialities, and provide assistance to the anaesthetist during regional anaesthesia, invasive monitoring and other anaesthetic related procedures. It includes the ability to prepare and monitor both patient and equipment during the procedure.

This unit applies to anaesthetic technicians working under the direction of, and in consultation with, an anaesthetist 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

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

1. Prepare patient and equipment.
 - 1.1. Read procedure information, check anaesthetist requirements and surgical factors that may impact on the anaesthetic procedure.
 - 1.2. Develop and communicate individualised anaesthesia plan in collaboration with anaesthetist.
 - 1.3. Select and prepare equipment and materials in relation to sequence and requirements of the patients and their anaesthetic procedure.
 - 1.4. Ensure all relevant anaesthetic equipment and materials are clean, decontaminated, sterile, in date, functioning correctly, prepared for use, and if necessary, calibrated.
 - 1.5. Position equipment and materials for accessibility.
 - 1.6. Accurately document accountable anaesthetic items.
 - 1.7. Position the patient for the procedure and provide optimum conditions to facilitate access.
 - 1.8. Check environment for administration of anaesthesia and adjust accordingly.
 - 1.9. Use appropriate aseptic and sterile techniques where applicable.
2. Provide assistance to the anaesthetist.
 - 2.1. Provide assistance to the anaesthetist during anaesthetic procedures and the induction, maintenance and completion of anaesthesia.
 - 2.2. Check patient's physiological parameters when required or as directed by anaesthetist.
 - 2.3. Complete required documentation.
 - 2.4. Identify, validate and report deviations from acceptable limits of the patient's physiological parameters to the anaesthetist.
 - 2.5. Report signs of patient discomfort, distress or adverse reaction to the anaesthetist.
 - 2.6. Assist with the perioperative medical management of the patient.
3. Restore equipment and environment at completion of procedure.
 - 3.1. Clean, decontaminate or sterilise equipment in accordance with infection control guidelines and manufacturer's instructions.
 - 3.2. Manage faulty equipment in accordance with organisational policies and procedures and manufacturers' guidelines.
 - 3.3. Restore the environment to required status.
 - 3.4. Restock consumables according to facility requirements.

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 HLTANA006 Assist with clinical procedures used in anaesthesia.

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 HLTANA013 Assist with clinical procedures used in anaesthesia

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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:

- for each of the following procedures, plan, prepare and assist during induction, maintenance and completion of anaesthesia, for at least three cases each:
 - general surgery and gastro-intestinal including major laparotomy and minor surgery
 - ear, nose and throat surgery
 - gynaecological surgery including major and minor
 - obstetric surgery
 - orthopaedic surgery including major and minor
 - vascular surgery including major and minor
 - urological surgery including major and minor
 - paediatric including minor ear nose and throat (ENT), general and orthopaedic
 - remote site anaesthesia:
 - medical imaging and electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)
 - angiography, endoscopy and cath lab
- provide assistance with at least five of the following procedures on at least three occasions, ensuring use of aseptic technique:
 - arterial line
 - central venous catheter
 - local
 - regional blocks
 - epidural and combined spinal-epidural
 - spinal
 - rapid infusion
- monitor physiological parameters with reference to standard values of normal physiological function for each patient's usual parameters
- perform the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 360 hours of work related to anaesthetic technology in a clinical workplace environment. These 360 hours may be applied collectively across all units of competency that include the requirement for workplace hours for the purposes of assessment.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- national, state or territory legal and ethical considerations for clinical procedures, 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 and clinical documentation
 - rights and responsibilities of workers, employers and patients
 - work role boundaries including responsibilities and limitations
 - work health and safety (WHS)
- types of regional and invasive procedures, how they are performed, and the anaesthetic technician's role, for the following:
 - spinal
 - epidural
 - combined spinal-epidural
 - caudal
 - local
 - regional blocks
 - blood patch
 - arterial line
 - central venous catheter
 - peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)
 - midline catheter
 - transoesophageal echocardiograph (TOE)
 - intercostal drainage
 - pain management procedures e.g. chemical sympathectomy
 - external pacing
- types of equipment used for regional and invasive procedures, i.e. tourniquets, ultrasound and diathermy including:
 - function and operating guidelines
 - use, indications and limitations
 - criteria for withdrawal
- monitoring and maintenance of stock levels perioperatively, including CO2 absorber, medications, fluids, consumables

- anatomy, physiology factors that impact regional and invasive procedures for different patient groups
- pre-medications and their effects
- types of surgery:
 - emergency
 - urgent
 - elective
 - day case
- types of common surgical procedures, their classification and factors for planning, preparation and management of anaesthesia, including:
 - general surgery and gastro-intestinal including major and minor laparotomy
 - ear, nose and throat surgery
 - minor and major maxillofacial surgery
 - gynaecological surgery including major and minor
 - obstetric surgery
 - orthopaedic surgery including major and minor
 - vascular surgery including major and minor
 - urological surgery including major and minor
 - ophthalmic surgery
 - neurosurgery including:
 - laminectomy
 - microdiscectomy
 - paediatric
 - minor ENT, general and orthopaedic
 - dental or faciomaxillary surgery
 - cardiothoracic surgery
 - neurosurgery
 - plastic or reconstructive surgery
 - trauma or emergency surgery
 - remote site anaesthesia including radiology, ECT or endoscopy
- indications for surgery and risk factors
- surgical approaches and duration of surgery
- position of patients for surgery
- common anaesthetic and surgical complications
- risk of anaesthetic technique for surgical procedure
- specialty medications required perioperatively
- expected blood loss for different types of surgery
- events during surgery that could affect anaesthesia, including:
 - massive haemorrhage
 - patient repositioning
 - cross clamping and unclamping of aorta and other major blood vessels

- orthopaedic bone cement syndrome
- transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) syndrome
- application and release of tourniquet
- tourniquet time
- abdominal carbon dioxide insufflation
- drug reaction
- air embolism
- fat embolism
- co-existing diseases and their perioperative medical management
- age of the patient and associated risks
- types of anaesthetic techniques and preference card systems
- intraoperative procedures, including:
 - nasogastric tube placement and suctioning
 - endotracheal tube suctioning
 - tracheostomy toileting
 - rapid infusion, blood transfusion and massive transfusion protocol
 - fluid balance-urine, gastric, blood loss and infusion
 - invasive and non-invasive clinical measurements
 - airway exchange
 - pain management techniques
 - invasive and non-invasive clinical measurement planning options
 - airway management planning options
- ancillary equipment choices
- pressure and nerve care
- normal range of motion for patient
- thermal management
- prevention of thromboembolism
- patient emotional and physiological responses to surgery
- procedures for transfer of anaesthetised patient to intensive care or radiology and equipment used
- communication techniques within multidisciplinary team in operating theatre environment.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace with the addition of simulations and scenarios where the full range of contexts and situations have not been provided in the workplace.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including those required by procedures nominated 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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