



Australian Government

HLTENN029 Apply nursing practice in the contemporary aged care setting

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version was released in <i>HLT Health Training Package release 3.0</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. Minimal change to knowledge evidence. Supersedes HLTEN615B

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to work effectively in the contemporary aged care environment providing specialised health care to support the continued independence of older people. It applies to care provided for older people in their own home, in community or day care centres, in acute or sub-acute hospital settings, and in residential high care or low care settings in aged care environments.

Enrolled nurses working in aged care nursing need to hold and apply specialised in-depth knowledge, effectively integrate theory and practice, and make reliable clinical assessments and judgements.

This unit applies to enrolled nurses, registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, seeking specialisation in enrolled nurse work that is carried out in consultation and collaboration with registered nurses, and under direct or indirect supervisory arrangements aligned to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia regulatory authority legislative requirements.

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 describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1. Address the health care needs
- 1.1 Identify physical and psychological effects of ageing

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of an older person in contemporary aged care settings

on the human body and apply insights when providing information and support to the older person

1.2 Recognise the significance of physical and psychosocial assessment when evaluating health of older people and maintain currency of own related knowledge

1.3 Identify funding arrangements and associated documentation requirements that impact aged care provision, and ensure funding and documentation requirements are met as applicable

1.4 Recognise crisis situations involving the older person and implement emergency management as required

1.5 Adjust communication strategies appropriately when communicating with an older person who has sensory loss

2. Manage an older person's care using a person-centred approach to support continued independence

2.1 Use critical thinking and problem-solving approaches to prioritise and adapt nursing interventions to reflect changes in the person's condition

2.2 Manage nursing workload according to a person's needs and re-prioritise care activities for the person rapidly when circumstances change

2.3 Monitor own nursing interventions to ensure they support independence and person-centred care in collaboration with interdisciplinary health care team and the person

2.4 Undertake appropriate pre-, intra- and post-diagnostic procedures for the person in line with organisation policy and procedures

2.5 Identify and interpret rehabilitation principles that underpin appropriate nursing interventions for the older person and apply to nursing care as required

2.6 Identify the person's understanding of their condition and current therapies and review their ability for self-management

2.7 Confirm the person's condition, therapies and capacity for self-management with the family or carer where appropriate

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2.8 Identify when the acuity of the older person is beyond own skills and knowledge and promptly consult with registered nurse and relevant interdisciplinary health care team members

3. Assess and respond to the needs of a person experiencing loss and grief

3.1 Identify the effects that experiencing grief and loss can have on a person's physical, emotional, cognitive, behavioural, social and spiritual domains

3.2 Identify factors impacting or potentially impacting the person, family or carer's experience of grief and loss

3.3 Encourage the person, family or carer experiencing loss or a complex grief reaction to verbalise their feelings, and provide support to them in that process

3.4 Facilitate and assist the interdisciplinary health care team to appropriately communicate adverse news to an older person, family or carer in line with organisation policies and procedures

4. Actively promote improvement and advancement of aged care nursing

4.1 Communicate outcomes and proposed actions to the registered nurse and use a collaborative approach for follow up with interdisciplinary team

4.2 Evaluate nursing interventions provided and consider identified outcomes against evidence-based best practice in aged care nursing

4.3 Recognise and monitor the symptoms of stress and professional carer burnout in self, peers and colleagues, and refer to appropriate services within organisation policies and procedures and scope of practice

4.4 Seek out opportunities and participate in professional development, acquiring knowledge to guide own practice and acting as a resource for colleagues

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 of competency.

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 HLTENN029 Apply nursing practice in the contemporary aged care setting

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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:

- undertaken nursing work in accordance with Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia professional practice standards, codes and guidelines
- analysed health information and the clinical presentation of 2 older people in the workplace, to reach a substantiated conclusion about possible nursing interventions to support continued independence and specialised health care in consultation with a registered nurse, including:
 - monitoring and providing effective symptom management of pain, hydration and nutritional needs, oral health issues and elimination needs
 - applying person-centred care and principles of rehabilitation in nursing interventions
 - supporting self-management strategies including use of appropriate devices or aids.

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:

- aged care system in Australia
- protocols for admission and transfer of older person to acute care environments
- aged care assessment and funding arrangements and associated documentation
- age-related adjustments and transitions for the older person

- evidence-based practice in aged care environment
- health illness continuum model
- philosophy of loss and grief, and how to deal with others experiencing loss or complex grief reactions
- philosophy underpinning aged care and extended care management
- legal and ethical issues and considerations, and assessment tools relevant to the older person, including but not limited to:
 - advance care directives
 - *Aged Care Act 1997* (Cwlth)
 - Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI)
 - carers recognition legislation
 - aged care risk classification system
 - Code of ethics for nurses in Australia' and the 'Code of professional conduct for nurses' (Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia)
 - Residential *Care Quality Assessment* (ResCareQA)
 - legal requirements associated with abuse of the older person.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace with the addition of simulations and scenarios where the full range of contexts and situations cannot be provided in the workplace. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources in line with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council's Standards including
 - progressive notes of a de-identified person's medical history
 - advance care directives
 - organisation policy and procedures on which the candidate bases the planning
- modelling of industry operating conditions including access to real people for simulations and scenarios in enrolled nursing work.

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

In addition, assessors must hold current registration as a Registered Nurse with Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

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