



Australian Government

HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting supersedes and is equivalent to HLTENN021 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to practise within the critical care setting.

Enrolled nurses working in critical care nursing hold and apply specialised in-depth knowledge, 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 (NMBA), 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 NMBA regulatory authority legislative requirements.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/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

Enrolled Nursing

Unit Sector

Enrolled Nursing

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Apply theoretical concepts and principles in providing critical care nursing.

2. Contribute to caring in the critical care setting.

3. Perform advanced enrolled nursing interventions to attain and maintain optimal health.

4. Develop own practice in the critical care nursing environment.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Identify current health status and limitations of medications and therapeutic regimes in the critical care setting.
- 1.2. Identify factors impacting the health status and report significant alterations.

- 1.3. Identify and respond to psychosocial needs in the critical care setting.

- 1.4. Identify and apply a systems approach to nursing care.

- 2.1. Identify role of specialist nursing and medical services in the critical care setting and work effectively with others.

- 2.2. Identify factors relevant to the situation giving consideration to physical, psychological, social and economic impacts.

- 2.3. Evaluate, document and revise plan of care using data collected and communicate to multidisciplinary health care team.

- 2.4. Identify care options, discuss advance care planning and advocate for optimal care outcomes.

- 3.1. Manage nursing workload according to needs and re-prioritise care activities rapidly when circumstances change.

- 3.2. Undertake pre-, intra- and post diagnostic procedures in line with organisational policies and procedures and within scope of practice.

- 3.3. Assess and prioritise emergency care activities rapidly in provision of emergency nursing care.

- 3.4. Identify and escalate nursing care where the person's acuity exceeds own knowledge, skill and assessed competence and consult with registered nurse and treating multidisciplinary health care team.

- 4.1. Make proposal for nursing interventions in consultation with registered nurse to promote improved outcomes.

- 4.2. Evaluate nursing interventions provided and outcomes against evidence-based best practice in critical care nursing.

- 4.3. Identify symptoms of stress and professional burnout in

self, peers and colleagues, and refer to services within organisational policies and procedures and scope of practice.

- 4.4. Seek opportunities and participate in professional development to guide own practice and act as a resource for colleagues.

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting supersedes and is equivalent to HLTENN021 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting.

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 HLTENN053 Apply nursing practice in the critical care setting

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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:

- perform nursing care interventions on three people in a critical care setting in the workplace by:
 - care of an arterial line
 - care of central venous access device
 - assessment of chest pain
 - recording and monitoring of electrocardiograph readings for abnormalities
 - use of continuous cardiac monitoring equipment
 - administration of non-invasive continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP)
 - care of permanent and temporary mechanical ventilation including suctioning and bagging
 - use of peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) and midline care
 - use of underwater seal drain (UWSD) management.

The tasks must include use of advanced communication and medical terminology to communicate effectively with the person, families and carers, and the registered nurse and other health professionals to record or report the outcomes.

The tasks must be undertaken in accordance with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) professional practice standards, codes and guidelines.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- advanced life support including advanced cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- nursing procedures relevant to a critical care setting including infusion pumps and patient-controlled analgesia pumps and syringe drivers
- anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology related to critical care issues sufficiently in-depth and specialised to make judgements and to make a professional contribution in the critical care setting
- priority of care in an emergency situation in the critical care setting
- actual and potential problems in critical care:
 - respiratory failure
 - increased intracranial pressure
 - deteriorating person and levels of consciousness
 - haemorrhage
 - hypercapnia
 - inability to clear secretions
 - inability to cough
 - aspiration
 - shortness of breath
 - electrolyte imbalance
 - fluid overload
 - hypoxia and hypoxaemia
 - chest pain
 - stroke
 - vessel occlusion
 - pneumothorax
 - pacemaker lead displacement
 - arrhythmia
 - allergic reaction
 - shock.

Assessment Conditions

To be eligible to apply for registration as an enrolled nurse and to practice in Australia, each applicant must complete a Diploma of Nursing program accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) and approved as 'an approved program of study' by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) in accordance with the Enrolled Nurse Accreditation Standards.

For more detail visit <https://www.ahpra.gov.au>.

Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment as specified in the performance evidence that model 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' requirements for assessors.

Assessors must also hold current registration as a registered nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA).

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