



Australian Government

HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting supersedes and is equivalent to HLTENN023 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to provide nursing care to a person with respiratory impairment in primary health care, hospitals, hospices, home and community care, and long-term care facilities.

Enrolled nurses providing respiratory nursing care 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 respiratory nursing care.

2. Assist in providing optimal respiratory health.

3. Provide respiratory nursing care.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

1.1. Apply theoretical concepts and principles to work in the respiratory nursing care environment.

1.2. Undertake comprehensive nursing assessment to inform nursing plan of care.

1.3. Evaluate respiratory function and communicate to multidisciplinary health care team.

1.4. Identify physical, psychological, social and economic factors relevant to health care status and outcomes of planned care.

2.1. Identify factors impacting respiratory status and re-prioritise care activities rapidly when circumstances change.

2.2. Participate in risk identification, assessment and management processes for respiratory impairment.

2.3. Provide support during pre-, intra- and post diagnostic procedures and provide information on the procedures.

2.4. Identify responses to nursing interventions and confirm understanding of how to manage the respiratory impairment after discharge.

2.5. Provide information about available community resources and how to access them.

2.6. Identify where the acuity of a person exceeds own knowledge, skill and assessed competence and refer to multidisciplinary health care team.

3.1. Make proposals for nursing interventions that promote optimal outcomes.

3.2. Evaluate nursing interventions and identified outcomes against evidence-based best practice in respiratory care nursing.

3.3. Evaluate responses to health interventions and education resources, and continuously improve promotions and

resources based on feedback.

- 3.4. 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

HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory care setting supersedes and is equivalent to HLTENN023 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory 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 HLTENN055 Apply nursing practice in the respiratory 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 the nursing care interventions on three people in a respiratory care setting:
 - care of an arterial line
 - use of positive airway pressure (CPAP) and bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP)
 - care of permanent and temporary mechanical ventilation including suctioning and bagging
 - use of tracheal suction via an endotracheal tube (ETT)
 - assistance with insertion or removal of pleural and intercostal or underwater seal drains (UWSD)
 - administration of oxygen based on evaluation of oximetry readings or blood gas analysis in consultation with registered nurse

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:

- respiratory anatomy, physiology and pathology, sufficiently in-depth and specialised to make judgements and to make a professional contribution to respiratory nursing care.
- respiratory conditions:
 - acute respiratory distress syndrome
 - asthma
 - bronchitis, bronchiolitis and bronchiectasis
 - chronic obstructive airway disease
 - cystic fibrosis
 - emphysema
 - haemothorax
 - lung cancer
 - pulmonary oedema
 - pneumonia
 - pulmonary embolism (PE)
 - pneumothorax
 - sleep apnoea
 - tuberculosis (TB)
- actual and potential problems from respiratory conditions:
 - aspiration
 - hypoxia
 - hypercapnia
 - inability to clear secretions
 - inability to cough
 - inability to protect airway
 - respiratory failure
 - shortness of breath
- potential nursing interventions related to respiratory conditions:
 - administration of non-invasive ventilation, CPAP and BiPAP
 - assisting with insertion and removal of pleural drains
 - care of an arterial line and evaluation of blood gas analysis
 - care of a person with a tracheostomy:
 - tracheostomy dressing
 - tracheal suction via an endotracheal tube (ETT) and tracheostomy
 - evaluating the results of oximetry readings.
 - respiratory assessment:
 - chest auscultation

- inspection
- pulse oximetry
- respiratory rate
- pulse rate
- blood pressure
- sedation score
- past medical history
- accessory muscles in use when breathing
- degree of shortness of breath (SOB)
- evaluating results of spirometry testing
- surgical procedures for respiratory conditions
- oxygen management.

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).

Links

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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>