



Australian Government

HLTENN068 Provide end of life care and a palliative approach in nursing practice

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTENN068 Provide end of life care using a palliative approach in nursing practice supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTENN068 Provide end of life care using a palliative approach in nursing practice. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTENN068 Provide end of life care using a palliative approach in nursing practice no equivalent unit.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to provide a person-centred approach to palliative and end of life care in primary health care, hospitals, hospices, home and community care, and long-term care facilities.

This unit applies to enrolled nursing work carried out in consultation and collaboration with registered nurses, and under supervisory arrangements aligned to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (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

Nursing

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential outcomes

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

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|--|---|
| 1. Identify and apply palliative approach to care. | 1.1. Undertake assessments using palliative principles and approach.
1.2. Apply pathophysiological changes associated with a life-limiting illness.
1.3. Assess pain management and implement strategies to address pain.
1.4. Assess preferences for symptom management and quality of life.
1.5. Reflect on lifestyle choices to formulate and implement the plan of care.
1.6. Identify and work within roles and responsibilities of the multidisciplinary health care team when planning palliative care. |
| 2. Support families and carers using palliative care approach. | 2.1. Identify and apply the advanced care plan and directive.
2.2. Provide the families and carers with opportunities to confirm spiritual and cultural issues.
2.3. Apply communication techniques when accessing support services.
2.4. Monitor condition and provide accurate and timely information that respects the families and carers' wishes. |
| 3. Identify needs of a person requiring end of life care. | 3.1. Provide nursing care by applying a palliative approach and culturally sensitive end of life care.
3.2. Provide symptom management including goals of care, education, psychological and spiritual support.
3.3. Identify end of life care needs for those with cognitive decline and mental health impairment. |
| 4. Identify and respond to signs of deterioration and the stages of dying. | 4.1. Support the person, families and carers throughout the end of life phase.
4.2. Identify physiological signs and symptoms of dying and report signs of deterioration and implement the person's wishes as per the plan of care.
4.3. Support the dignity of the person when undertaking care activities in their end of life stages.
4.4. Identify and respond to legal and ethical issues with deterioration and stages of dying. |
| 5. Provide care after death. | 5.1. Determine extinction of life and acknowledge bereavement support. |

- 5.2. Ensure after death care is carried out with dignity and respect, and that individual customs, culture, religion, spiritual practices and choices are taken into account.
- 5.3. Provide care of the body after death using standard precautions.
- 6. Recognise and reflect on own emotional self-care.
 - 6.1. Identify and reflect on own need for self-care.
 - 6.2. Identify and implement ways to sustain own social and emotional wellbeing.
 - 6.3. Encourage self and colleagues to access support and participate in professional debriefing.

Foundation Skills

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 HLTENN068 Provide end of life care and a palliative approach in nursing practice

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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:

- analyse health information and clinical presentation of one person to reach a conclusion of possible palliative care planning and nursing interventions
- provide nursing care using a palliative approach to one person in the workplace
- perform nursing interventions through the end of life stages to one person
- The tasks must include professional interactions with the person, families and carers

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:

- identification of needs of the person, families and carers through a palliative care approach
- assessment and management of delirium
- State/Territory legislation on advance care planning, advance care directives and notification of a death
- cultural, religious and spiritual factors underpinning end of life choices
- ethical and legal issues related to a palliative care approach:
 - voluntary assisted dying

- decisions regarding advance care directives
- conflicts that occur in relation to personal values and decisions made by and for the person
- organ donation
- request for autopsy
- hydration and nutrition requirements during palliative care and at end of life
- pain management:
 - medication administered using a syringe driver and intima sub-cut lines
 - common non-pharmaceutical and complementary care
- indications and contraindications for use of syringe driver in administration of pain medication
- indications for intima sub-cut lines for pain relief, anti-nausea and steroid injections
- impact of loss and grief on person, families, carers and team members
- own role and responsibilities, and those of other team members involved in palliative care
- digital tools used to support a palliative approach in aged care settings
- organisational policies, procedures, protocols and practices in relation to palliative care
- resources available to those requiring grief and bereavement support.

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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