



Australian Government

HLTINFCOV001 Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures

Release: 1

HLTINFCOV001 Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to follow organisational infection prevention and control procedures, including implementing standard and transmission-based precautions and responding to infection risks.

This unit applies to individuals working in health and direct client care contexts.

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
<i>Elements define the essential outcomes</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element</i>
1. Follow standard and additional precautions for infection prevention and control	1.1 Follow hand hygiene practices in accordance with organisations policies and procedures 1.2 Implement hand care procedures and cover cuts and abrasions 1.3 Follow organisation procedures for choice and use of personal protection equipment 1.4 Follow procedures for respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette 1.5 Follow procedures for environmental cleaning 1.6 Follow procedures for handling, transporting and processing of linen in a manner that controls the spread of infection 1.7 Follow procedures for disposal of contaminated waste 1.8 Follow procedures for handling and cleaning client equipment that prevents skin and mucous membrane exposures, contamination of clothing, and transfer of pathogens 1.9 Identify and respond to situations where additional precautions may be required to prevent transmission of

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements define the essential outcomes

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

infection

2. Identify infection hazards and assess risks

2.1 Identify infection hazards associated with own role and work environment

2.2 Identify own areas of responsibility in relation to infection prevention and control

2.3 Assess risk by determining the likelihood and severity of harm from identified hazards.

2.4 Document and report activities and tasks that put self, clients, visitors and/or other workers at risk

2.5 Identify appropriate control measures to minimise risk in accordance with organisations procedures

3. Follow procedures for managing risks associated with specific hazards

3.1 Follow protocols for care after exposure to blood or other body fluids as required

3.2 Place appropriate signs when and where appropriate

3.3 Remove spills in accordance with the policies and procedures of the organisation

3.4 Minimise contamination of materials, equipment and instruments by aerosols and splatter

3.5 Identify, separate and maintain clean and contaminated zones

3.6 Confine records, materials and medicaments to a well-designated clean zone

3.7 Confine contaminated instruments and equipment to a well-designated contaminated zone

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 HLTINFCOV001 Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures

Modification History

Not applicable.

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:

- followed established organisation infection prevention and control procedures on at least 3 separate occasions
- followed established organisation infection prevention and control procedures at least once for each of the following:
 - hand hygiene and care of hand
 - use of personal protective equipment
 - handling of waste
 - enforcing clean and contaminated zones
 - limitation of contamination
 - surface cleaning

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:

- established guidelines for the prevention and control of infection, including those for:
 - personal and hand hygiene:
 - how to hand wash
 - how to hand rub
 - pre-surgical hand preparation
 - clinical moments when hand hygiene should be performed with soap and water rather than alcohol-based hand rub
 - non-clinical moments for hand hygiene hand care, including guidelines on maintaining intact skin, fingernails and jewellery/watches
 - use and scope of personal protective equipment guidelines for:
 - glove use
 - wearing gowns and waterproof aprons
 - wearing masks
 - wearing protective glasses

- surface cleaning:
 - cleaning procedures and their specified times
 - routine surface cleaning
- managing a blood or body fluid spill
- sharps handling and disposal techniques
- reprocessing procedures for equipment
- types of additional precautions and their relevance to particular areas of work or client groups
- types of hazards in the work environment and associated risks and control measures
- chain of infection:
 - source of infectious agent
 - mode of transmission
 - susceptible host
- basis of infection, including:
 - bacteria and bacterial spores
 - difference between harmless microorganisms and pathogens
 - difference between colonisation, infection and disease
 - fungi
 - viruses
- key modes of disease transmission – contact, airborne and droplet:
 - paths of transmission including direct contact, aerosols and penetrating injuries
 - risk of acquisition
 - sources of infecting microorganisms including persons who are carriers, in the incubation phase of the disease or those who are acutely ill
- factors that increase the susceptibility to infection:
 - immune status
 - wounds or devices
 - medications and comorbidities
 - age

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 have not been provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely.

The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
 - organisational infection prevention and control guidelines
 - personal protective equipment
 - hand hygiene facilities and equipment
 - medical or client care equipment relevant to the workplace

- clinical and other waste and waste disposal equipment
- areas for cleaning
- equipment for cleaning, including sterilised sharps if relevant to role
- modelling of industry operating conditions, including integration of problem solving activities to which the candidate responds

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

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