



Australian Government

HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health supersedes and is equivalent to HLTOHC002 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to provide practical information and instruction to patients and groups to promote and support good oral health care practices. This enables the candidate to provide health promotion and practical demonstration and instruction of oral hygiene practices and techniques.

This unit applies to workers in a range of health and community services environments whose work roles provide them with an opportunity to promote and support good oral health care.

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

Nil

Unit Sector

Oral Health

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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| <p>1. Develop and maintain understanding of oral health information and issues.</p> | <p>1.1. Use credible sources of oral health information to interpret what constitutes good oral health.</p> <p>1.2. Maintain current knowledge on the risk factors and outcomes associated with poor oral health and hygiene practices.</p> <p>1.3. Identify oral health hygiene techniques used to address specific patient needs and preferences.</p> <p>1.4. Demonstrate own commitment to oral health through awareness and application of effective self-care oral health practices.</p> <p>1.5. Recognise social and cultural determinants of health as well as varying individual motivations and capacity to carry out good oral health care practices.</p> |
| <p>2. Provide information related to oral health using a person-centred approach.</p> | <p>2.1. Address agreed outcomes in planning for oral health care needs by explaining the link between oral health and general health.</p> <p>2.2. Prepare information so that it is relevant to the target audience and use a person-centred approach to identify and respond effectively to individual needs.</p> <p>2.3. Engage and respond to concerns of patient by providing oral health care information, including issues associated with poor oral health and hygiene.</p> <p>2.4. Negotiate with patient a flexible approach to delivery of oral health information.</p> <p>2.5. Explain relevant information on the importance of regular oral checks with an oral health practitioner.</p> |
| <p>3. Provide specific information and instruction on oral hygiene self-care, techniques and appropriate aids.</p> | <p>3.1. Collect data specific to patient by questioning, observing and accessing available information from patient or carer.</p> <p>3.2. Instruct and explain tooth brushing and soft tissue techniques and use of appropriate aids, detailing their advantages in terms of achieving and maintaining effective oral health.</p> <p>3.3. Demonstrate and provide instruction on the care of partial and full dentures.</p> |

- 3.4. Identify and implement opportunities for participants to demonstrate learned skills.
- 3.5. Encourage and support patients, including people with special needs to follow effective self-care techniques for oral hygiene practices to make knowledge, attitude and behavioural changes where possible.
- 4. Evaluate effectiveness of oral health information session.
 - 4.1. Obtain feedback from the patient or group to determine whether the information is correctly received and understood.
 - 4.2. Reflect on outcomes and implement changes to information or delivery processes based on feedback.

Foundation Skills

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

Unit Mapping Information

HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health supersedes and is equivalent to HLTOHC002 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health.

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 HLTOHC008 Inform and support patients and groups about oral health

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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:

- communicate effectively to at least one individual patient and a group of at least five patients to provide information that addresses their oral health care needs, including:
 - impact of oral health on general health and wellbeing
 - causes and prevention of dental plaque, dental caries, dental erosion and periodontal disease and dental trauma
 - diet and nutrition
 - denture care on patients with dentures
- for each of the above, evaluate how well target audience has understood the oral health and self-care practice information provided
- for each of the above, reflect on and improve own level and application of skills and knowledge to motivate target audience and achieve key oral health outcomes.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- basic anatomy and physiology underpinning oral health, including what is considered healthy and unhealthy.
- patient behaviour and habits which contribute to oral health issues

- causes and prevention of tooth decay, gum disease and tooth wear including erosion, abrasion and attrition
- what constitutes good oral health:
 - breath without offensive odour
 - inflammation and lesion-free soft tissue in mouth
 - intact and stable teeth without cavities
 - moist lips without chapping
 - no build-up of food, calculus or plaque
 - no oral pain
 - pink, moist, uncoated tongue
 - watery plentiful saliva
 - well-fitting dentures
- accessibility to services, including availability of private and public oral health services and eligibility for services
- effective self-care practices for oral health including cause, control and prevention of dental plaque
- factors that impact on oral health, including:
 - abuse including neglect of oral health needs
 - access to dental and health services
 - alcohol, licit and illicit drugs and substances, over the counter and herbal treatments
 - bacteria in dental plaque
 - correct infant feeding practices.
 - damage from habitual grinding of teeth.
 - diet and nutrition, including fluids and excessive intake of sugar.
 - fluoride
 - general health and wellbeing
 - immunosuppressant conditions, HIV, chemotherapy and radiation
 - injury to mouth, including from a seizure
 - medical history
 - oral piercings
 - patient oral health information
 - presence of plaque and calculus
 - psychological issues, including fear of being seen without dentures or persisting with ill-fitting dentures for satisfaction of others
 - salivary function.
 - smoking
 - social and cultural determinants of health
 - susceptible tooth surfaces
 - transmission of bacteria particularly from family or carer to child
 - teeth misalignment causing trauma to teeth
 - trauma to the mouth as a result of an accident

- healthy eating and drinking recommendations as identified in National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) Australian dietary guidelines
- processes to obtain feedback and evaluate health information sessions for future improvement.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. Where simulation is used, it must reflect real working conditions by modelling industry operating conditions and contingencies.

Assessment must ensure:

- access to suitable facilities, equipment and resources including:
 - credible sources of information on oral health
 - oral health equipment and aids
 - dentures
- access to current Dental Board of Australia (DBA) infection control and record keeping guidelines
- access to National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) Australian dietary guidelines
- modelling of industry operating conditions including access to people for simulations and scenarios in oral health care work

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations' requirements for assessors.

Links

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