



Australian Government

HLTPHA023 Apply knowledge of cardio-respiratory disorders to dispense medication

Release: 1

HLTPHA023 Apply knowledge of cardio-respiratory disorders to dispense medication

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit of competency describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to recognise the main medications and their actions in the treatment of cardio-respiratory disorders and to inform and dispense these medications to patients.

This unit applies to hospital or health services pharmacy assistants and technicians working under the supervision of an authorised person.

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

Pharmacy

Unit Sector

Health

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Identify medication required to treat cardio-respiratory disorders.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Identify the cardio-respiratory condition being treated.
- 1.2. Identify the factors that lead to the successful medicinal treatment of cardio-respiratory disorders.
- 1.3. Consult authorised personnel to verify the successful medicinal treatment of cardio-respiratory disorders.

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| 2. Prepare appropriate cardio-respiratory medication to dispense to patients. | 2.1. Identify the appropriate cardio-respiratory medications to be dispensed to patients in accordance with Work Health and Safety (WHS) policies, guidelines and symbols. |
| | 2.2. Confirm medication to be dispensed to the patient with an authorised person and prepare as directed. |
| 3. Provide appropriate information to patients on the correct use of cardio-respiratory medication. | 3.1. Use communication techniques, in accordance with ethical codes of conduct to explain the uses and limitations of the cardio-respiratory medication to patients. |
| | 3.2. State the dosage that has been prescribed. |
| | 3.3. Explain the steps required to ingest, apply, inhale and actuate the prescribed medication. |
| | 3.4. Explain the route for administering the medication. |
| | 3.5. Explain the storage requirements of the medication and how to dispose of used or remaining unused portion of the medication. |
| | 3.6. Identify the signs which would warrant referral to an authorised person when required. |
| | 3.7. Utilise appropriate techniques to confirm patient understanding of the uses and actions of the medication. |
| | 3.8. Identify patients having difficulty using, taking and actuating their prescribed medication and provide further assistance or refer the patient if required. |
| 4. Assess that a patient can use their inhaler device properly. | 4.1. Confirm that the patient knows how to store their inhaler device in accordance with storage requirements. |
| | 4.2. Confirm the patient knows how often to use their inhaler in accordance administration requirements. |
| | 4.3. Confirm that the patient knows which inhaler to use as a reliver or controller if prescribed. |
| | 4.4. Confirm that the patient knows the expiry date of their inhaler device. |

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 HLTPHA023 Apply knowledge of cardio-respiratory disorders to dispense medication

Modification History

Not applicable.

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:

- prepare and dispense cardio-respiratory medication on at least 10 occasions, including:
 - sourcing information
 - screening, assessing and providing basic medication discharge information and instructions to patients regarding the use of cardio-respiratory medications
 - referral of enquiries outside scope of own practice to the pharmacist
 - confirmation of medication dispensing with an authorised person
- perform at least 5 inhaler technique assessments of patients with at least 4 different inhaler devices
- explain how to treat an acute asthma attack utilising the patients' asthma management plans to at least 5 patients
- annotate at least 20 medication charts with administration or storage advice for the relevant medication
- identify at least 10 patients with cardiac treatment plans and, for each case, determine the expected duration for each cardiac medication prescribed
- perform the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of 240 hours of work related to hospital or health services pharmacy support in a clinical workplace environment. These 240 hours may be applied collectively across all units of competency that include the requirement for workplace hours for the purposes of assessment.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- understand cardio-respiratory disorders including:
 - common causes of cardio-respiratory disorders
 - uses and limitations of medication dispensed to patients in the treatment of cardio-respiratory disorders
 - common adverse reactions of medication dispensed to patients in the treatment of cardio-respiratory disorders including:
 - pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods to manage adverse effects

- conditions or adverse reaction to medication that require referral to a trained health care professional
- relevant legislation, regulations and ethical codes relating to medication dispensing
- standard pharmaceutical references, including:
 - Australian Medicines Handbook (AMH)
 - Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary Handbook (APF)
 - Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) or AusDI Advanced
 - Micromedex
- national guidelines:
 - Australian Heart Foundation guidelines
 - Australian Asthma Foundation guidelines
- relevant National, State or Territory regulatory and legislative requirements
- legal responsibilities of providers of health care in relation to confidentiality, patient rights, duty of care and implications of negligence
- limitations of own work role including identification and referring of issues outside scope of practice to an authorised person
- Work Health and Safety (WHS) policies, guidelines and symbols and their relevance to dispensing medication
- key aspects of the following respiratory disease:
 - asthma
 - COPD
 - hay fever
 - influenza and pneumonia
 - acute asthma attack
 - aims of treatment
- key aspects of the following cardio disease:
 - hypertension
 - hyperlipidaemia
 - hypercholesterolaemia
 - atrial fibrillation
 - angina and myocardial infarction
 - pathophysiology
 - aims of treatment
 - angina and myocardial infarction
 - pathophysiology
 - therapeutic options, including:
 - pharmacological
 - non-pharmacological
- common medications and medication classes used to manage respiratory illnesses, including:
 - inhaled corticosteroids

- beta agonists
- muscarinic antagonists
- antihistamines
- antimicrobials
- common medication and medication classes used to manage cardiac conditions:
 - angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors
 - angiotensin II receptor antagonists
 - beta blockers
 - calcium channel blockers
 - statins
 - fibrates
 - antiplatelets
 - anticoagulants
 - nitrates
- common side effects of medications used to manage common respiratory illnesses and cardiac conditions and how to manage these side effects, including:
 - the role of the various inhalers
 - preventers
 - relievers
- available formulations of medications and routes of administration used to treat common respiratory illnesses and cardiac conditions:
 - tablets
 - capsules
 - patches
 - inhalers
 - nasal sprays
 - oral
 - intranasal
 - inhaled
 - sublingual
 - transdermal
- the legal scheduling of each of the common medication used to treat common respiratory illnesses and cardiac conditions
- devices used to treat common gastrointestinal conditions, including:
 - metered dose inhalers
 - dry power inhalers
- legal scheduling of each of the common medications used to treat common cardio-respiratory disorders
- information that should be conveyed to patients, including:
 - generic and brand names of the medication

- intended purpose and expected action or duration of treatment
- administration advice or how to take the medication:
 - special directions
 - dose timing in relation to food
 - what to do if dose is missed
- how to store medication
- how to dispose medication.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be 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.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources including access to:
 - relevant legislation, regulations and guidelines
 - medicine information and resources on cardio-respiratory disorders
- authorised person with whom to consult.

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

Links

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