



Australian Government

HLTPHA030 Apply knowledge of medications used to provide analgesia

Release: 1

HLTPHA030 Apply knowledge of medications used to provide analgesia

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 providing analgesia.

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 manage pain.
2. Prepare appropriate analgesics to dispense

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1. Identify the cause of pain.
- 1.2. Identify the factors that lead to the successful management of pain.
- 1.3. Consult authorised personnel to verify the optimal use of analgesics.
- 2.1. Identify the appropriate analgesics to be dispensed to patients.

- to patients.
- 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 the analgesics.
- 3.1. Use communication techniques, in accordance with ethical codes of conduct to explain the uses and limitations of analgesics to patients.
- 3.2. State the dosage that has been prescribed.
- 3.3. Explain the steps required to ingest and apply 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.

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 HLTPHA030 Apply knowledge of medications used to provide analgesia

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 analgesic medication on at least 10 occasions and inform 10 patients, including:
 - identifying and sourcing information
 - screening, assessing and providing basic medication discharge information and instructions to patients regarding the use of analgesic medications
 - referral of enquiries outside scope of own practice to the pharmacist
 - confirmation of medication dispensing with an authorised person
- 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 information about analgesics including:
 - main types of pain
 - common agents used to manage pain
 - uses and limitations of medication applied to manage pain
 - common adverse reactions of medication used to manage pain
 - pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods to manage adverse effects
 - conditions or adverse reactions to medication that requires 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

- 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 own practice to an authorised person
- Work Health and Safety (WHS) policies, guidelines and symbols and their relevance to dispensing medication
- key aspects of analgesia, including:
 - types of pain:
 - nociceptive
 - neuropathic
- basic pathophysiology
- treatment aims
- impact of the disease state on everyday living or function
- the ability to take medications and strategies to mitigate inability to take medications
- factors altering a person's perception of pain, including:
 - cultural issues
 - prior experiences
 - social factors
 - physical symptoms
 - psychological symptoms
 - personal beliefs
- prescribing considerations of analgesics, including:
 - WHO analgesia ladder
 - background analgesia
 - breakthrough analgesia
 - pre-emptive analgesia
- available formulations of medications and routes of administration used to treat pain, including:
 - tablets
 - capsules
 - oral liquids
 - patches
 - creams
 - suppositories
 - sublingual
 - intravenous or subcutaneous
 - oral
- risks associated with opioid medications, including:
 - dependence
 - addiction

- diversion or misuse
- overdose
- common medications and medication classes used to treat pain
- common side effects of medications used to treat pain and how to manage these side effects
- legal scheduling of each of the common medications used to treat pain
- information that should be conveyed to patients, including:
 - generic and brand names of the medications
 - intended purpose and expected action or duration of treatment.

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 analgesics
- authorised person with whom to consult.

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

Links

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