



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **HLTAN404C Provide assistance during emergence phase of anaesthesia**

**Release: 1**

## **HLTAN404C Provide assistance during emergence phase of anaesthesia**

### **Modification History**

Not Applicable

## Unit Descriptor

### Descriptor

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance in the immediate post- procedural stage during the emergence phase of anaesthesia

## Application of the Unit

### Application

Work is performed under the direction of the anaesthetist and requires broad knowledge, a range of well developed skills and the ability to develop and apply solutions to a range of predictable and unpredictable problems. Individuals use discretion and judgement and take responsibility for the quality of their outputs

The unit includes assisting the anaesthetist in the management of the client's airway, including the removal of artificial airways, and assisting in the preparation and administration of a limited range of drugs (in accordance with national and state/territory legislation and organisation policies) which have been prescribed by the anaesthetist. It also includes providing assistance to the anaesthetist in monitoring and responding to changes or lack of changes in the client's condition during emergence phase of anaesthesia

Administration of anaesthesia may occur in various locations within the hospital environment e.g. operating theatres, emergency department, intensive care unit (ICU), radiology department

All activities are carried out in accordance with relevant Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Policy Documents, organisation policies, procedures and infection control guidelines

## Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not Applicable

## Pre-Requisites

Not Applicable

## Employability Skills Information

### Employability Skills

This unit contains Employability Skills

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements define the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.

The Performance Criteria specify the level of performance required to demonstrate achievement of the Element. Terms in *italics* are elaborated in the Range Statement.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

### ELEMENT

### PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Prepare *drugs and equipment* for emergence phase

- 1.1 Select and prepare *equipment* for the administration of drugs and ensure it is in the correct condition for use
- 1.2 Collect, check and prepare drugs for administration under the direction of the anaesthetist and within national legislation and organisation policies and procedures
- 1.3 Identify allergies, contra-indications and side effects which may affect the safe administration of drugs and refer to the anaesthetist
- 1.4 Prepare site following site selection by the anaesthetist and under the direction of the anaesthetist
- 1.5 Handle and dispose of sharps safely
- 1.6 Select and check *equipment* for airway management and ensure it is made available for use

**ELEMENT****PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

2. Assist in management of *client's* airway during emergence phase

- 2.1 Assist anaesthetist with client positioning to facilitate management of client's airway
- 2.2 Assist anaesthetist to optimise oxygenation of client
- 2.3 Select, prepare and handle *equipment* in accordance with OHS and infection control policies and procedures
- 2.4 Assist anaesthetist as required during intubation and extubation
- 2.5 Provide reassurance to the client and take action to limit injury in accordance with organisation policies and procedures
- 2.6 Observe client's condition throughout the procedure and take action when required or at the direction of the anaesthetist
- 2.7 Dispose of contaminated equipment and body fluids safely in accordance with waste management policies

3. Administration of drugs following and under the direction of the anaesthetist consistent with practice and procedure and state and territory legislation

- 3.1 Explain intended actions to provide reassurance and elicit cooperation from client
- 3.2 Refer potential problems to the anaesthetist prior to administration
- 3.3 Administer the drug in accordance with organisation policies and procedures and state/territory legislation
- 3.4 Complete *documentation*

**ELEMENT****PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4. Restore equipment and environment at completion of procedure and following transfer of client | 4.1 Clean, disinfect and/or sterilise equipment as required and in accordance with infection control guidelines and manufacturer's instructions |
|                                                                                                  | 4.2 Manage faulty equipment in accordance with organisation policies and procedures                                                             |
|                                                                                                  | 4.3 Dispose of disposable items in accordance with waste management policies                                                                    |
|                                                                                                  | 4.4 Handle soiled linen in accordance with infection control guidelines                                                                         |
|                                                                                                  | 4.5 Restock consumables                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                  | 4.6 Clean and restore environment                                                                                                               |

## **Required Skills and Knowledge**

### **REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE**

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level required for this unit.

#### *Essential knowledge:*

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively do the task outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage the task and manage contingencies in the context of the identified work role

This includes knowledge of:

- Anaesthetic procedures relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Anatomy of upper/lower respiratory tract and accessory muscles of respiration
- Boundaries of responsibilities and ability to refer problems to supervisor, anaesthetist or other appropriate health professional
- Clinical/operative procedures and the interrelationship with anaesthesia relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Equipment related to operative procedure and their function relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- General knowledge of pathophysiology of disease relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia
- Manual handling and client positioning techniques to prevent injury relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia

## REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Medical terminology relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Medico-legal requirements relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia
- Occupational health and safety and infection control procedures/regulations relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia
- Oxygen therapy maintenance
- Pharmacology relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Physiology of normal respiration, factors which effect respiration, conditions which may compromise the client's airway, and types and signs of airway obstruction
- Types of equipment used in airway management, and drug administration and indication for use
- Use of pain management equipment relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia

### *Essential skills:*

It is critical that the candidate demonstrate the ability to:

- Anticipate the needs of the anaesthetist
- Calculate drug dosages relevant to providing assistance during anaesthesia
- Comply with organisation policies and procedures including those of OHS and infection control, and current standards
- Correctly apply relevant Australian Standards and organisation policy and procedures for cleaning, disinfecting and/or sterilisation of anaesthetic equipment where applicable
- Identify and manage faults in anaesthetic and monitoring equipment
- Identify the different methods of airway maintenance
- Monitor range of physiological parameters with reference to standard values of normal physiological function relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Position clients relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia
- Recognise the signs and symptoms, causes and remedial actions in the event of loss of airway relevant to providing assistance in anaesthesia

In addition, the candidate must be able to effectively do the task outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage the task and manage contingencies in the context of the identified work role

This includes the ability to:

- Deal with conflict
- Display empathy with client and relatives
- Take into account opportunities to address waste minimisation, environmental responsibility and sustainable practice issues
- Use numeracy skills including the ability to complete basic arithmetic calculations, recording stock levels and statistical information
- Use oral communication skills-language competence required to fulfil job roles in a safe

## REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

manner and as specified by the organisation. Assessors should look for skills in asking questions, providing clear information, listening to and understanding workplace instructions, and clarifying workplace instructions when necessary. Effective verbal and non verbal communication skills with a range of personnel, within and outside of the organisation, are essential. An ability to recognise and manage barriers to effective communication is also essential. Organisation may require competence in English or a community language, depending on client group

- Use problem solving skills required, including an ability to use available resources
- Use reading and writing skills-literacy competence required to fulfil job roles in a safe manner and as specified by the organisation. The level of skill required involves reading and documenting clinical information and understanding complex policy and procedure manuals.
- Work with others within a team

## Evidence Guide

### EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

*Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate this competency unit:*

- The individual being assessed must provide evidence of specified essential knowledge as well as skills
- Observation of workplace performance is essential for assessment of this unit
- Consistency of performance should be demonstrated over the required range of situations relevant to the workplace
- Where, for reasons of safety, space, or access to equipment and resources, assessment takes place away from the workplace, the assessment environment should represent workplace conditions as closely as possible

## EVIDENCE GUIDE

### *Context of and specific resources for assessment*

- Resources essential for assessment include:
  - access to appropriate workplace where assessment can take place
  - simulation of realistic workplace setting for assessment
  - relevant organisation policy, guidelines, procedures and protocols

### *Access and equity considerations:*

- All workers in the health industry should be aware of access and equity issues in relation to their own area of work
- All workers should develop their ability to work in a culturally diverse environment
- In recognition of particular health issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, workers should be aware of cultural, historical and current issues impacting on health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Assessors and trainers must take into account relevant access and equity issues, in particular relating to factors impacting on health of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients and communities

### *Method of assessment*

- Observation in the workplace
- Clinical skills involving direct client care are to be assessed initially in a simulated clinical setting (laboratory). If successful, a second assessment is to be conducted during workplace application under direct supervision
- Written assignments/projects
- Case study and scenario as a basis for discussion of issues and strategies to contribute to best practice.
- Questioning verbal and written
- Role play/simulation

### *Related units:*

This unit can be assessed independently, however holistic assessment practice with other health services units of competency is encouraged

## Range Statement

### RANGE STATEMENT

The Range Statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Add any essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts.

*Drugs may include:*

- Anaesthetic reversal drugs
- Drugs associated with anaesthetic emergencies
- Analgesia and antimetics

*Equipment for the administration of drugs may include:*

- Syringes
- Needles
- Needleless system
- Infusion pump, including client controlled analgesia
- Nebulisers via tracheal tube
- Medicine cups
- Antiseptics
- Sharps container

*Drug administration routes may include:*

- Intra-muscular
- Oral
- Rectal
- Sub-cutaneous
- Inhalation/nebulisation
- Topical
- Intravenous

## RANGE STATEMENT

*Equipment for airway management must include:*

- Range of nasal and oral endotracheal tubes
- Tracheostomy tubes
- Range of laryngoscopes, laryngoscope blades and handies
- Fibreoptic bronchoscopes
- Light wand
- Difficult intubation equipment
- Intubation aids
- Oropharyngeal/nasal/laryngeal airways
- Suction equipment for oesophageal and tracheal suction
- Self inflating bag
- Face masks
- Nebulisers
- Anaesthetic circuits
- Breathing systems and attachments
- Connectors
- Filters
- Mouth gags
- Video equipment

*Clients requiring anaesthetic may include:*

- Neonates
- Infants
- Children
- Adolescents
- Adults
- Elderly
- Pregnant women
- Impaired
- Traumatised
- Unconscious
- Immuno-compromised
- Male
- Female

*Documentation may include:*

- Client's notes/charts
- Hospital records

## **Unit Sector(s)**

Not Applicable