



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

HLTEN612B Practise in the perioperative nursing environment

Release: 1

HLTEN612B Practise in the perioperative nursing environment

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Descriptor

This competency unit describes the skills and knowledge required to apply the principles of perioperative nursing care, building upon existing skills to enable the Enrolled/Division 2 nurse to provide holistic nursing care

Enrolled/Division 2 nurses use a range of complex nursing interventions to assist client/s, and their significant others, to attain and maintain optimal health

Application of the Unit

Application

The knowledge and skills described in this competency unit are to be applied within jurisdictional nursing and midwifery regulatory authority legislative requirements

Enrolled/Division 2 nursing work is to be carried out in consultation/collaboration with registered nurses and under direct or indirect supervisory arrangements in line with jurisdictional regulatory requirements

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.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Work as part of the *multi-disciplinary health care team* in the perioperative environment

- 1.1 Contribute appropriately to support the role of the multi-disciplinary health care team in managing care needs of *clients* in the perioperative environment
- 1.2 Contribute to achieving effective team work and supportive group dynamics when working with health care colleagues
- 1.3 Establish appropriate relationships with other members of the health care team
- 1.4 Incorporate into practice the philosophical framework for managing care for the client in the perioperative environment
- 1.5 Recognise the role of emergency service personnel, referring agencies and other hospital department staff as contributors to the initial/emergency care needs of the client in the perioperative environment
- 1.6 Maintain professional communication with all members of the perioperative team

ELEMENT

2. Contribute to assessment of client undergoing surgical intervention

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- 2.1 Perform a holistic assessment of the client within the perioperative environment in conjunction with registered nurse/midwife, taking into account the client's physical, emotional, spiritual and cultural needs
- 2.2 Recognise significant findings in physiological and/or psychological variables promptly and report to appropriate health team members
- 2.3 Use contemporary perioperative assessment tools accurately
- 2.4 Communicate effectively with clients, their significant others and other health team members
- 2.5 Provide holistic client centred care in the perioperative environment
- 2.6 Document perioperative assessment including any special needs identified for the client

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA****3. Contribute to *planning* care for perioperative client**

3.1 Develop an individualised plan of care for client in the perioperative environment in conjunction with registered nurse/midwife and in consultation/collaboration with the client and the health care team

3.2 Participate with registered nurse/midwife to ensure nursing care plan reflects specific nursing care requirements in accordance with health unit policy

3.3 Participate with registered nurse/ midwife to ensure care plan reflects client's current nursing needs and nursing actions designed to maximise physical function and minimise potential complications

3.4 Demonstrate understanding of risk management principles in planning client care

3.5 Confirm that planned care and therapeutic interventions aim to assist client/s to achieve optimal health outcomes

3.6 Identify requirements of client (and identified significant other/s) for health promotion and education to enhance implementation of nursing care plan

3.7 Carry out regular review of plan of care and, in conjunction with registered nurse/ midwife, modify to reflect changes in client condition

3.8 Identify and report any potential for adverse client outcome, using information gained through perioperative assessment

3.9 In consultation/collaboration with the registered nurse, ensure health teaching and discharge planning is incorporated into practice, in line with established policies and procedures for discharge/transfer

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA****4. Perform *clinical nursing actions* appropriate to care of perioperative clients**

- 4.1 Prioritise nursing interventions according to client needs, in conjunction with registered nurse/ midwife
- 4.2 Modify nursing interventions using critical thinking and problem solving approaches, to reflect changes in client condition
- 4.3 Perform nursing interventions to assist client (and significant other/s) to meet expected outcomes of nursing care plan, including health promotion and/or education
- 4.4 Maintain a safe environment appropriate for the age specific population
- 4.5 Monitor nursing interventions, identify any that fail to address client needs and revise them in consultation/collaboration with the health care team
- 4.6 Perform contemporary nursing interventions for the client within the perioperative environment as part of the health care team
- 4.7 In conjunction with registered nurse/ midwife, implement an individualised plan of care for the client within the perioperative environment
- 4.8 Recognise environmental hazards and take advantage of every opportunity to reduce risk and promote safety
- 4.9 Check equipment according to manufacturer recommendations, ensure proper functioning and take corrective action and report when faulty equipment and/or environmental hazards are detected
- 4.10 Apply the principles of infection control to all activities within the perioperative environment, applying a surgical conscience at all times in line with ACORN standards
- 4.11 Ensure appropriate perioperative diagnostic procedures are undertaken in line with organisation policies and procedures
- 4.12 Implement appropriate perioperative surgical procedures in line with organisation policies and procedures
- 4.13 Ensure medication administration is based on sound knowledge of principles of drug actions and side effects in accordance with health unit policies and procedures

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

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| 5. Evaluate effectiveness of nursing interventions and planned care in the perioperative environment | 5.1 Evaluate responses of client/s and identified significant other/s to nursing interventions, and modify and document in accordance with health unit policy and in conjunction with registered nurse/ midwife |
| | 5.2 Assess client understanding of their condition, medications and therapeutic regimes prior to discharge/transfer |
| | 5.3 Evaluate client acceptance of specific health promotion initiatives prior to discharge/transfer |
| | 5.4 Assess and review understanding of identified significant other/s in relation to current condition of client and their ongoing management |
| | 5.5 Monitor client's response to nursing interventions and progress toward planned goals, and document and report to the appropriate members of the health care team |
| | 5.6 Identify appropriate emergency response to adverse reactions or perioperative complications and initiate as required |
| | 5.7 Report and document any emergency treatment and the client's response to the treatment |

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:

- Australian Standards relating to electrical hazards, radiation hazards, and sharps disposal

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Client advocacy
- Client rights and responsibilities
- Complications of surgical procedures and their management
- Confidentiality and privacy
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Cultural and spiritual beliefs and practices
- Emergency and first aid treatment of surgical procedures
- Factors influencing growth and development
- Factors influencing self esteem
- Grief and loss
- Health teaching
- Health-illness continuum
- Infection control policies and procedures specific to perioperative environment
- Legislative requirements for practice, including Nurses Act, Organ and Tissue Transplantation Act, Freedom of Information Act&Occupational Health&Safety Act
- Literature and professional bodies associated with perioperative care and management
- Medical terminology
- Medication management - pharmaco-dynamics and pharmaco-kinetics
- Occupational health and safety legislation
- Organisation policy and procedure
- Participating as a member of the health care team
- Philosophy of perioperative nursing
- Principles of effective documentation
- Principles of health assessment
- Reflective practice
- Specialised in-depth knowledge in anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology related to a diverse range of conditions
- Specialised knowledge and execution relating to emergency care
- Specialised knowledge in the clinical manifestations of disease states
- Surgical asepsis
- Use of complex technologies, such as anaesthetic machines, lasers, CUSA and endoscopic equipment

Essential skills:

It is critical that the candidate demonstrate the ability 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:

- Apply relevant admission and discharge tools according to organisation policy
- Apply relevant health unit assessment tools according to organisation policy
- Apply cognitive processes to reflect problem solving and analysis in the planning

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

implementation and evaluation of care to clients

- Apply clinical nursing skills, including:
 - administration of oxygen
 - administration of pre operative, post operative medications
 - admission and discharge procedures
 - application of anti-embolism stockings
 - care of the unconscious client
 - collection of specimens for pathology studies
 - deep breathing and coughing
 - electrocardiography
 - emergency management of post operative complications
 - facilitation of activities of daily living
 - incentive spirometry
 - incentive spirometry
 - insertion of indwelling catheter
 - intra operative observations
 - maintenance of fluid balance
 - maintenance of patent airway
 - management of intravenous therapy including blood replacement
 - management of skin integrity
 - management of surgical drains
 - material resource monitoring
 - monitoring of blood glucose level
 - oral suctioning
 - pain management
 - post operative observations including neurovascular and neurological
 - preparation of the client for a surgical procedure
 - pre-procedure baseline observations
 - recovery of client post anaesthetic
 - support scrub nurse
 - wound management

continued ...

Essential skills (contd):

- Apply professional standards of practice:
 - ANMC code of conduct
 - ANMC code of ethics

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- ANMC national Enrolled/Division 2 nurse competency standards
- state/territory Nurse Regulatory Nurses Act
- state/territory Nursing and Midwifery Regulatory Authority standards of practice
- scope of nursing practice decision making framework
- ACORN Policy statements and guidelines
- Diligent application of infection control procedures in the perioperative environment
- Demonstrate accountability for personal outputs and broad client group outcomes
- Use Information technology systems
- Use language, literacy and numeracy competence required to communicate effectively with client, group, colleagues and to record or report client outcomes
- Use advanced communication skills
- Use education and teaching strategies relating to health promotion and practical task applications

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 performance in a work context is essential for assessment of this unit
- Consistency of performance should be demonstrated over the required range of workplace situations and should occur on more than one occasion and be assessed by a registered nurse

EVIDENCE GUIDE

Context of and specific resources for assessment:

- This unit is most appropriately assessed in the clinical workplace or in a simulated clinical work environment and under the normal range of clinical environment conditions
- Where, for reasons of safety, access to equipment and resources and space, assessment takes place away from the workplace, simulations should be used to represent workplace conditions as closely as possible

Method of assessment

- Observation of clinical performance in the work place
- Written assignments/projects
- Case study and scenario as a basis for discussion of issues and strategies to contribute to best practice
- Questioning - verbal or written
- Role play in the clinical perioperative setting
- Simulation in the clinical perioperative setting
- Surgical Workbook
- Experience Log

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

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.

Clients may include:

- Inpatients
- Outpatients

ranging from neonates to the frail aged client

Health care setting may include:

- Perioperative
- Hospital setting
- Free standing Day Surgery/Ambulatory Care facility

Multidisciplinary health care team members may include:

- Nurses
- Surgeons
- Anaesthetists
- Support Staff including, SSD Technical Aids, Wardsmen, Porters, Stockroom Assistants, Clerical Support.
- Allied health staff including, radiographers and physiotherapists

RANGE STATEMENT

Client assessment may include:

- Performance of activities of daily living
- Loss of physical function
- Perceptions of pain
- Accompanying trauma or injury
- Self image and body image concerns
- Impact on family or significant others
- Expectations of surgical procedure
- Expectations of post operative procedures
- Levels of mobility
- Presence of co-morbidities and previous medical history
- Skin integrity
- Previous surgical intervention
- Fear and anxiety associated with surgical intervention
- Psycho social considerations
- Physiological alterations associated with surgical intervention
- Preoperative, Intraoperative and Postoperative complications
- Accompanying trauma or injury
- Level of client knowledge regarding their surgical experience

Planning appropriate care may include:

- Perioperative nursing records
- Nursing care plans
- Observation sheets
- Anaesthetic records
- Medical record
- Computerized operation notes
- Clinical pathways
- Treatment plans
- Discharge plans
- Community referrals
- Health teaching
- Rehabilitation plans
- Theatre booking processes

RANGE STATEMENT

Evaluation of planned outcomes may include:

- Monitoring of clients response to surgical procedure
- Clarification of client understanding of health teaching, discharge planning or return appointment schedule
- Client understanding of care needs post discharge

Actual and potential problems may include but are not limited to:

- Electrolyte imbalance
- Fluid overload
- Reduced CO₂
- Hypoxia/Hypoxaemia
- Sepsis
- Haemorrhage
- Neurovascular damage
- Cerebral Vascular Accident
- Arrhythmia

RANGE STATEMENT

Clinical nursing skills may include but are not limited to::

- Airway management
- Use of suction equipment
- Maintenance of normothermia
- Preoperative nursing assessment
- Preparing the client for anaesthesia and surgical intervention
- Practice in the various roles of the perioperative nurse under the supervision of the Registered Nurse
- Positioning of the client for surgical intervention
- Medication management
- Urinary catheterisation (female clients)
- Physiological monitoring equipment
- Role in transfusion / fluid management
- Assessment and monitoring of haemo dynamic status and fluid replacement therapies
- Handover to post anaesthesia care unit
- Principles of decontamination and sterilization
- Material resource management
- Aseptic technique
- Management of the client in the post anaesthetic care unit
- Caring for the immediate post-operative client
- Post-operative monitoring(delete)
- Airway management in the post anaesthesia care unit
- Preparation of the perioperative environment
- Discharge planning considerations
- Handover&documentation
- Client education

Unit Sector(s)

Not Applicable