



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

HLTMT514C Procure and store tissues

Release: 1

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Modification History

HLTMT514B Procure and store tissues	HLTMT514C Procure and store tissues	ISC upgrade changes to remove references to old OHS legislation and replace with references to new WHS legislation. No change to competency outcome.
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Unit Descriptor

Descriptor

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required for a mortuary theatre technician to prepare for and assist with the procurement and storage of tissues

It includes the removal, handling and storage of tissues for diagnostic and tissue bank purposes

Application of the Unit

Application

Work performed requires a broad knowledge base and the ability to apply solutions to a defined range of unpredictable problems

Individuals will take responsibility for their own outputs and limited responsibility for the quantity and quality of output of others

All tasks are conducted in accordance with organisation policies and procedures including work health and safety (WHS) 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. Ensure suitability of donor

- 1.1 Check *consent for tissue removal*
- 1.2 Confirm details of tissue removal
- 1.3 Use *personal protective equipment* correctly
- 1.4 Ensure aseptic techniques are followed
- 1.5 Undertake *external examination* of body in order to confirm identify and suitability of donor
- 1.6 Undertake *tests* to ensure suitability of donor
- 1.7 Assess medical and social history to ensure suitability of donor

2. Prepare for retrieval

- 2.1 Notify *retrieval team*
- 2.2 Liaise with medical officer as appropriate
- 2.3 Obtain and prepare *relevant equipment and consumable items*

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
3 Retrieve tissue	3.1 Eviscerate body following medical officer's instructions and in line with consent and legislative requirements 3.2 Follow aseptic techniques 3.3 Obtain <i>specialist tissues</i> for testing eg brain for CJD 3.4 <i>Reconstruct, clean and restore body</i> to acceptable condition for viewing 3.5 Prepare body for storage and return for refrigeration storage
4 Package and store tissue	4.1 Collect samples for micro contamination testing of tissues 4.2 Pack tissue on collection 4.3 Store tissue as per the <i>relevant standards</i>
5. Clean autopsy room	5.1 Clean equipment and store safely 5.2 Sterilise equipment as required 5.3 Clean work area according to <i>infection control policy and procedures</i> 5.4 Dispose of <i>waste</i> safely and in accordance with organisation policy and procedures

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:

- Anatomy, physiology and pathology relevant to the role of the Mortuary Technician undertaking special autopsy techniques
- Cleaning techniques
- Common infection and other risks associated with autopsy procedures
- Modes of infectious disease transmission
- Principles of photography
- Relevant basic medical terminology
- Relevant organisation policies and procedures
- WHS in a mortuary

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:

- Correctly and safely dispose of clinical and other wastes
- Correctly label, identify and transport tissues
- Effectively communicate with medical officer performing autopsy
- Follow correct documentation procedures for organ retention, specimen recording and for photography
- Follow infection control and WHS policy and procedures
- Follow organisation waste management practices, taking into account opportunities to address waste minimisation, environmental responsibility and sustainable practice issues
- Follow safe working procedures during autopsies
- Operate medical imaging equipment effectively
- Perform special autopsy techniques
- Remove spine and bone marrow
- Remove tissues
- Use accurate dissection techniques
- Use autopsy equipment correctly and safely
- Use body reconstruction and restoration techniques following autopsy
- Use correct knife sharpening techniques
- Use numeracy skills including the ability to complete basic arithmetic calculations, and undertake measurements of volumes and weight
- Use oral communication skills required to fulfil job roles in a safe manner and as specified by the organisation, including skills in:
 - asking questions
 - providing clear information
 - listening to and understanding workplace instructions
 - clarifying workplace instructions when necessary
 - using effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills with a range of internal

and external persons

- Use personal protective equipment correctly
- Use reading and writing skills required to fulfil job role in a safe manner and as specified by the organisation at a level of skill that includes:
 - reading workplace policy and procedure manuals
 - documenting administrative and clinical information
- Use problem solving skills required including an ability to use available resources and manage a daily routine

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

Context of and specific resources for assessment:

- Access to an autopsy room where assessment can take place
- Autopsy equipment
- Relevant organisation policy, guidelines, procedures and protocols
- Relevant legislative requirements

Method of assessment

- Observation in the work place (if possible)
- Written assignments/projects or questioning should be used to assess knowledge
- Case study and scenario as a basis for discussion of issues and strategies to contribute to best practice

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

Related units:

This unit should be assessed in conjunction with the following related unit:

- HLTMT304D Assist with autopsy

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.

Consent for tissue removal includes:

- Senior available next of kin approval
- Specification of tissue to be collected, such as:
 - bone
 - eye
 - skin
- Sign off by designated officer

Suitability check may include

- Viral checking
- External examination of body
- Infection diseases

Personal protective equipment includes

- Face protection
- Eye protection
- Gown
- Apron
- Surgical suits
- Gloves
- Protective footwear
- Respirators

Relevant Standards include

- Relevant State and Territory Legislation concerning tissue removal and storage

Tissues may include:

- Bone
- Eyes
- Skin
- Heart valves
- Pancreas

External examination must include:

- Donor identification
- Identifying features, including:
 - scars
 - tattoos
- Anal passage
- Examination for evidence of illicit drugs

*Tests **must** include:*

- HIV1/2
- HCV
- HBV
- HTLV1
- Syphilis
- Micro contamination testing

*And **may** include:*

- CJD
- CMV
- EBV
- Others as per specific tissue type

Retrieval team includes

- Medical practitioner
- Administration support
- Prosectors

Relevant equipment and consumable items

- Specimen containers
- Autopsy table
- Trolleys
- Surgical instruments
- Scales
- Specimen containers
- Necropsy saw
- Knives
- Packing materials
- Needles
- Suture materials
- Body bags
- Electric scrubbers

Specialist tissues include

- Brain for CJD testing

Reconstruction and restoration of bodies may include:

- Reconstruction
- Cleaning cavities
- Packing of absorbent material
- Blocking orifices
- Replacement of organs
- Suturing incisions
- Insertion of prostheses
- Washing and drying body
- Bagging of body to appropriate standard and labelling

Infection Control policy and procedures may include:

- Personal hygiene
- Cleaning procedures
- Cleaning of surfaces and equipment
- Use of cleaning chemicals
- Use of personal protective equipment
- Standard and additional precautions
- Disposal of clinical and other wastes

Waste may include:

- Clinical wastes
- General waste
- Toxic waste

Unit Sector(s)

Not Applicable