



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUAEME004 Provide emergency care for suspected spinal injury

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release 2. Updated superseded HLT Pre-requisite unit.

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the PUA Public Safety Training Package

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and includes

- assessing and monitoring vital signs of casualty including level of consciousness, breathing rate, pulse rate, skin colour and temperature and remaining with casualty
- assessing hazards and evaluating associated risks when determining need to move casualty
- communicating with casualty to provide reassurance
- completing organisational documentation
- complying with organisational policies and procedures including Work, Health and Safety (OHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements
- following basic life support protocols
- identifying suspected spinal injury in both a conscious and unconscious casualty
- immobilising cervical spine including measuring and selecting appropriately sized cervical collar and fitting it correctly
- performing casualty handover to medical personnel
- preparing casualty for transport including selecting and applying appropriate immobilisation equipment including scoop stretchers, spine boards and strapping and stokes baskets
- transporting and monitoring casualty
- using safe manual handling skills

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and includes knowledge of

- basic life support protocols
- common causes of spinal injuries
- communication techniques
- manufacturers' operating instructions
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures including Work, Health and Safety (OHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements and risk mitigation
- potential hazards

- risks associated with moving a casualty with a suspected spinal injury
- safe manual handling techniques
- signs and symptoms of suspected spinal injury
- techniques for manual stabilisation
- types of spinal immobilisation equipment available including cervical collars, scoop stretchers, spine boards and strapping and stokes baskets
- vital signs of casualty

Assessment Conditions

As a minimum, assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

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Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations. Where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in industry approved simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

Competency should be demonstrated in a range of first aid incidents or scenarios requiring management of suspected spinal injuries.

Resources for assessment must include access to

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment currently used in industry including
 - equipment used in managing suspected spinal injuries
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=3eca5672-6d5a-410b-8942-810d0ba05bbf>