



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PUADEFPH006A Monitor water handling and distribution practices

Revision Number: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

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This unit covers the competency required to inspect and monitor water distribution for safe water handling practice within the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Application of the Unit

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The application of this unit in the workplace includes monitoring local water distribution practices, providing advice on cleaning and sanitation of water distribution equipment and generally promoting safe water handling practice.

This unit of competency is applicable to preventive medicine personnel. This function is limited to the performance of tasks in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

Employability Skills This unit contains employability skills.

Pre-requisite Unit/s Nil

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the Required Skills and Knowledge and/or the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. **Monitor water distribution point**

- 1.1 Routine monitoring of water storage and distribution points is performed to assess ***standard of safe water handling practices***
- 1.2 ***Field water testing*** is performed to ascertain the quality of water
- 1.3 Samples of water are obtained and processed for testing in a laboratory, in accordance with ***organisational policies and procedures***
- 1.4 Information gathered during monitoring is collected and interpreted against national standards for drinking water quality
- 1.5 General assessment is made of local water handling practices and reported to relevant personnel, including recommendations for improving water safety
- 1.6 Water contamination is reported to relevant personnel and ***immediate action*** is taken to restrict the use of contaminated water

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA****2. Monitor water storage and distribution equipment**

- 2.1 Local system for cleaning and sanitising water storage and distribution equipment is reviewed to ensure it conforms with organisational policies and procedures
- 2.2 Advice on cleaning and sanitising water storage and distribution equipment is provided
- 2.3 System for regular water storage and distribution equipment survey is established to ensure continued compliance with organisational policies and procedures
- 2.4 Equipment suspected to be contaminated or not approved for water storage and distribution is reported to relevant personnel and immediate action is taken to restrict further use

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

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

Required Skills

- communicate appropriately about, consult on and impart knowledge of:
- causes of disease transmission
- causes of manpower wastage
- control measures of disease transmission
- safe water handling practices
- water quality assurance measures
- interpret data gathered in the field against quality standards in national water quality guidelines and organisational policy
- liaise and communicate with persons in positions of authority
- make technical judgements based on own level of knowledge and experience
- prioritise tasking
- work safely

Required Knowledge

- aetiology of water-borne diseases
- Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2004 (National Health and Medical Research Council)
- best use of available resources
- causes of disease transmission
- causes of manpower wastage
- control measures of disease transmission
- documentation processes relevant to own workplace
- health surveillance system
- organisational policies and procedures
- process of disease
- risk management principles
- safe water handling practices
- time management strategies to set priorities
- water quality assurance measures

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

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

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- liaise and communicate with personnel in authority
- recognise unsafe water or water storage containers and take action to prevent illness
- impart knowledge of safe water handling practices.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over a minimum of two assessment occasions.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in an actual workplace situation. This may be in an urban or a field setting.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- appropriate equipment and stores
- relevant organisational policies and procedures.

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. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

Standard of safe water handling practices may include

Controlling water distribution from a central point of supply
Organising regular water-point survey by health personnel
Performing correct individual clarification
Performing individual disinfection
Protecting from vectors of disease (house flies)
Storing in a location protected from contamination
Using approved storage containers

Field water testing may include

Faecal coliform bacteria
Free chlorine (after addition)
Physical characteristics (taste, colour, odour and temperature)
pH
Radioactivity (as ordered)
Selected poisons (if presence is suspected, normally arsenic and cyanide, and may include mustard and nerve agents)
Total coliform bacteria
Total dissolved solids (TDS)
Turbidity

Organisational policies and procedures may include

Clinical standards (state/territory and national)
Codes of ethics
Codes of practice
Environmental health policy
Health and hygiene guidelines
Health surveillance policy documents
Industry professional body standards
Industry standards (state/territory and national)

RANGE STATEMENT

Immediate action may include	Organisational health policy directives
	Pesticides manual
	Relevant Australian Standards
	Relevant Commonwealth Acts
	Workplace safety guidelines
	Classifying water not fit for consumption
	Classifying water storage containers not fit for continued use
	Liaising with persons in authority to inform them of the situation
	Making arrangements to correct the problem

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Corequisite Unit/s

Co-requisite Unit/s	NWP210A Perform basic water tests
	NWP218A Perform sampling