

HSC222 Support individuals prior to, during and after clinical procedures (Level 2)

Elements of Competence

HSC222a Prepare individuals for clinical activities

HSC222b Support individuals during and following clinical activities

About this unit

For this unit you need to be able to prepare individuals for clinical activities in accordance with the requirements of the activity to be performed, the practitioner and the assessed needs of the individual. You also need to support individuals during and after some form of clinical activity, other than within an operating department.

Scope

The scope is here to give you guidance on possible areas to be covered in this unit. The terms in this section give you a list of options linked with items in the performance criteria. You need to provide evidence for any option related to your work area.

Appropriate action may involve: notifying the practitioner; seeking help; stopping the preparation; stopping the activity; commencing first aid in line with relevant local policies and procedures; using the emergency alarm system

Individual can be: adults; children and young people; older people; people with communication differences

Information in relation to: the frequency; type and duration of follow-up procedures/post procedural recovery; other advice relevant to the clinical activity and/or the individual

Prepare includes: clinical preparation (e.g. of specific sites on the body); physical preparation (e.g. position, bladder evacuation except where contra-indicated); emotional preparation (e.g. informing, advising, supporting)

Standard precautions and health and safety measures including: hand washing/cleansing before during and after the activity; the use of **personal protective clothing** and **additional protective equipment**; handling **contaminated** items; disposing of waste; safe moving and handling techniques and untoward incident procedures

Support includes: physical (e.g. holding); emotional (e.g. reassurance, (explanations about what is happening)

Your **knowledge and understanding** will be specifically related to legal requirements and codes of practice applicable to your job; your work activities; the job you are doing (e.g. domiciliary, residential care, hospital settings) and the individuals you are working with.

Values underpinning the whole of the unit

The values underpinning this unit have been derived from the key purpose statement¹ the statement of expectations from carers and people receiving services, relevant service standards and codes of practice for health and social care in the four UK countries. They can be found in the principles of care unit

¹ The key purpose identified for those working in health and social care settings is "to provide an integrated, ethical and inclusive service, which meets agreed needs and outcomes of people requiring health and/or social care"
A4.15 level 2

HSC24. To achieve this unit you must demonstrate that you have applied the principles of care outlined in unit HSC24 in your practice and through your knowledge.

This unit is directly transferable to Health national occupational standards GEN4 and GEN5

Key Words and Concepts

This section provides explanations and definitions of the key words and concepts used in this unit. In occupational standards it is quite common to find words or phrases used which you will be familiar with, but which, in the detail of the standards, may be used in a very particular way. **Therefore, we would encourage you to read this section carefully before you begin working with the standards and to refer back to this section as required.**

Additional protective equipment Advocate	Includes: types of personal protective equipment such as visors, protective eyewear and radiation protective equipment Carer, appropriate staff member, representative from an external agency
Appropriate member of staff	This is dependant upon the setting in which the preparation for the clinical activity takes place, but may include: Registered nurse, social worker, G.P, home manager, health visitor, midwife, qualified therapist
Contaminated	Includes items contaminated with body fluids, chemicals or radionucleatides. Any pack/item opened and not used should be treated as contaminated.
Informed consent	Informed consent given by individual to being touched and having their programme/treatment carried out by the candidate. Consent may be given in writing or verbally.
Information and documentation	Any records and information relevant to the individual's preparation for the clinical activity including written notes, charts and graphs
Personal protective clothing	Clothing that offers protection for the worker and the individual. It includes items such as plastic aprons, gloves - both clean and sterile, footwear, dresses, trousers and shirts and all in one trouser suits. These may be single use disposable clothing or reusable clothing
Problems	May include: an unexpected change in the individual's condition, conditions or behaviour indicating an adverse reaction or contra-indication in relation to the clinical activity to be undertaken, identification of a hazard within the immediate or general environment, where the individual is unwilling or unable to comply with post procedural requirements relating to their health and well being
Standard precautions and health and safety measures	A series of interventions which will minimise or prevent infection and cross infection including handwashing / cleansing before during and after the activity and the use of personal protective clothing and additional protective equipment when appropriate

HSC222a Prepare individuals for clinical activities

Performance Criteria

You need to show that,

1. you refer to and respond appropriately to all relevant **information and documentation** prior to starting the preparation
 2. you confirm the individual's identity is consistent with the records
 3. you ensure that any information relevant to the treatment obtained from the individual is complete, accurate and legibly recorded
 4. you identify the nature of support that the individual needs and respect their privacy, dignity, wishes and beliefs when working with them
 5. you check that the individual has given the necessary **informed consent** to the activity before any action is taken and understands the activity about to take place
 6. you inform the individual that training is taking place, where this is relevant, and obtain the necessary informed consent to proceed or offer an appropriate option
 7. you seek help and advice from an **appropriate member of staff** without delay if the individual or **advocate** does not give informed consent to the activity
 8. you answer correctly any questions which are within your area of responsibility, at a level and pace appropriate to the individual and any companions, and refer any questions that you cannot answer to the appropriate person
 9. you apply **standard precautions** for infection control and other necessary **health and safety measures** during the preparation of individuals
 10. you inform the individual why it is necessary for you to wear any particular forms of dress and protection
 11. you prepare the individual correctly according to the requirements of the activity to be carried out
 12. you check that the individual has complied with any prescribed pre-procedural instructions and accurately report the outcome to the practitioner leading the activity
 13. you help individuals who need assistance to prepare for the activity in a manner which retains their dignity and is in accordance with their personal beliefs and preferences
1. you store personal articles which need to be removed by individuals for the activity safely and securely in the appropriate place
 1. you take prompt appropriate action in response to any **problems** which occur during the preparation of the individual in accordance with local policies and procedures
 2. you record and report all relevant information fully and accurately and in the appropriate manner and place

HSC222b Support individuals during and following clinical activities

Performance Criteria

You need to show that,

1. you identify the nature of support that the individual needs and respect their privacy, dignity, wishes and beliefs when working with them
2. you assist the individual to reach and maintain the required position for the procedure and to be as comfortable as possible given the constraints of the procedure
3. you support and monitor the individual during and following the clinical activity and encourage them to promote their own comfort and well-being
4. you ensure individuals who are to undertake parts of the activity themselves are given appropriate assistance in a manner which encourages them to be as self-managing as possible
5. you apply standard precautions for infection control and other necessary health and safety measures during and following the clinical activity
6. you offer the individual the opportunity to freshen up and dress, and provide the appropriate support to enable them to do so
7. you ensure the individual is provided with the appropriate facilities and support for the period of recovery from the clinical activity
8. you offer the individual clear, concise and accurate information where this is within your scope of practice
9. you answer correctly any questions which are within your area of responsibility, at a level and pace appropriate to the individual, and refer any questions that you cannot answer to the appropriate person
10. you make the appropriate arrangements for transport and escorts when these services are required by the individual
11. you keep accurate, complete and legible records of your actions and the individual's condition in accordance with local policies and procedures
12. you take prompt appropriate action in response to any problems which occur during or following the clinical activity in accordance with local policies and procedures

Knowledge Specification for the whole of this unit

Competent practice is a combination of the application of skills and knowledge informed by values and ethics. This specification details the knowledge and understanding required to carry out competent practice in the performance described in this unit.

When using this specification **it is important to read the knowledge requirements in relation to expectations and requirements of your job role.**

You need to show that you know, understand and can apply in practice:

Values

1. a working understanding of what consent is and why it must be obtained and confirmed prior to actions being taken
2. a basis awareness of why your personal beliefs may cause you difficulties with certain activities and how you manage this conflict in practice
3. a working understanding of the different types of needs, concerns, beliefs and preferences the individual may have and how these may affect the preparation for clinical activities and the individual's attitude in relation to clinical care and settings and the type of support you offer in relation to clinical activities
4. a working understanding of the ways in which the individual's right and choices may have to be restricted because of the nature of the preparations required for certain clinical activities
5. a working understanding of the importance of considering the individual's level of understanding in answering questions about the clinical activity

Legislation and organisational policy and procedures

6. a factual awareness of the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies which affect your work practice in relation to:
 - preparing individuals for clinical activities
 - supporting individuals during and following clinical activities
7. a working understanding of your responsibilities under the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols on your actions within the care environment
8. a working understanding of local protocols for discharging an individual from an episode of care

Theory and practice

9. a working understanding of why it is important to get positive confirmation of the individual's identity before starting the preparation and effective methods of obtaining positive identification
10. a working understanding of the importance of following standard precautions relevant to the clinical activity to be undertaken and the protective clothing which may be worn for the individual's and your protection
11. a working understanding of the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions
12. a working understanding of what is and is not a sterile field and how the

correct level of cleanliness may be maintained for the clinical activity, the individual and the setting

13. a working understanding of specific protection/precautionary measures appropriate to the procedure being carried out and how they should be applied
14. a working understanding of your role and the importance of working within your own sphere of competence
15. a working understanding of the roles and responsibilities of other team members
16. a factual awareness of why questions that are beyond your role or knowledge need to be passed onto the appropriate member of the care team.
17. a working understanding of the importance of checking all relevant information and documentation before commencing the preparation of the individual, and the types of information contained within relevant documents e.g. plan of care

Specific healthcare knowledge

18. a factual awareness of the anatomy and physiology of the areas of the body affected by the clinical activity being undertaken

Materials and equipment

19. a working understanding of the essential resources used in relation to:
 - preparing the individual for the clinical activity
 - supporting the individual during and following the clinical activity
20. a working understanding of safe handling techniques for any equipment and materials used to:
 - prepare the individual for the clinical activity
 - support the individual during and following the clinical activity
21. a working understanding of the importance of preparing resources before you start the activity

Care and support

22. a working understanding of the types of support and assistance individuals may require:
 - in preparation for the clinical activity to be undertaken
 - during and following the clinical activity
23. a working understanding of the concerns and worries which individuals or client groups may have in relation to some clinical activities and appropriate ways of responding to these concerns (e.g. Concerns about potential diagnosis)
24. a working understanding of why it is important to adjust and/or remove clothing in preparation for certain clinical activities
25. a working understanding of the importance of offering verbal and non-verbal support and reassurance to the individual and the methods of doing so
26. a working understanding of the importance of keeping the individual informed about what you are doing, the nature of the activity which is being prepared for and the clinical activity itself

27. a working understanding of the different methods of communication you may have to use in relation to individuals with communication difficulties or differences
28. a working understanding of the importance of checking that the individual has complied with any prescribed pre-treatment instructions and possible implications if instructions are not followed
29. the types of anxiety, pain, or discomfort which individuals may experience following different procedures and reasons for this
30. a working understanding of the importance of monitoring the individual's well-being during and following the clinical activity
31. a working understanding of the importance of and reasons for post procedural instructions and the implications of the individual not understanding these or these not being delivered
32. a working understanding of the impact on the individual's physiological system of the condition requiring the clinical treatment
33. a working understanding of the clinical signs which require the attention of other team members
34. a working understanding of signs and symptoms of adverse reactions or contra-indications to the clinical activity being performed

Procedures and techniques

35. a working understanding of the correct procedure for preparing the individual for the clinical activity to be undertaken
36. a working understanding of correct positioning of the individual for the prior to and for clinical activity being undertaken and the importance of ensuring this is achieved and maintained
37. a working understanding of the degree of assistance individuals may need to reach and maintain required positions and the ways in which this may be done (e.g. positioning aids)
38. a working understanding of the problems which may occur during preparation and the appropriate action to take in response including the contra-indications relating to the clinical activity
39. a working understanding of the problems which may occur during and following the clinical activity and the appropriate action to take in response, including the methods of identifying and responding to common types of adverse reactions to the clinical activity
40. a working understanding of safe moving and handling techniques as appropriate to the clinical activity
41. a working understanding of the circumstances (procedures and particular individual needs) in which a period of post-procedural recovery is necessary and the factors which should be monitored during this period
42. a factual awareness of the circumstances in which there is a clinical need for refreshment and why this is important
43. a working understanding of how to arrange transport and escort services for the individual

Records and documentation

44. a working understanding of the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner

45. a factual awareness of the types of information which must be recorded in relation to preparation for and supporting individuals within the clinical activity being undertaken
46. a factual awareness of the importance of recording information as soon after the event as possible
47. a working understanding of the importance of immediately reporting any issues which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff