

Specification of Competency Standards
for the Elderly Care Service Industry
Unit of Competency

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Monitor Vital Signs
Code	106003L3
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in the elderly care service industry who provide clinical care to elderlies. Based on professional knowledge of nursing care, employees are required to interpret, judge, and assess vital signs, to identify any abnormalities in vital signs among elderlies, and to provide proper care and make referrals to ensure their well-being.
Level	3
Credit	5 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Relevant knowledge on vital signs</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the definition, criteria and reference range of vital signs, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Body temperature ○ Breathing rate ○ Heart rate ○ Blood pressure ○ Blood oxygen level ○ Pain level on the pain scale ○ Sweating ○ Face complexion ○ Level of consciousness • Understand the techniques to measure the vital signs accurately, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Choose appropriate devices and use them properly ○ Interpret results correctly and analyse the data • Understand the factors that affect the vital signs among elderlies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Psychological conditions, such as anxiety ○ Illness ○ Degeneration due to ageing ○ Use or cessation of medication ○ Current treatment ○ Previous records of vital signs <p>2. Monitor the vital signs</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure, document and monitor the vital signs of elderlies according to relevant guidelines of the institution and healthcare needs of the individuals • Fill in relevant vital signs charts, ensure all data are well documented and properly stored. Monitor the vital signs based on the condition of each elderly. For example, monitor the vital signs more frequently if he/she suffers from acute or chronic illness, or is taking a new medication. • Judge whether elderlies' vital signs seem abnormal, and refer the cases to healthcare professionals for follow-up if necessary • At the end of a shift, pass the vital signs information to colleagues in the next shift, so as to ensure continuous monitoring of elderlies' conditions • In case of emergency, such as respiratory arrest, cardiac arrest or rapid deterioration of vital signs, employees should immediately report to their supervisors so that resuscitation procedures adopted by the elderly care industry can be initiated in timely manner

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	<p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply knowledge on nursing care and professional analysis to monitor the vital signs of the elderly in order to ensure their health• be aware of any change in elderly's vital signs and make referral as soon as possible
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to measure elderly's vital signs at regular time intervals and monitor them continuously; to notice any abnormality as soon as possible; and• Ability to analyse the factors that account for abnormal vital signs; to follow up cases properly so as to ensure the well-being of elderly.
Remark	<p>Employees performing this unit of competence are supposed to have acquired some knowledge on vital signs and the skills required to measure such signs.</p>