

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Perform Subcutaneous Injection
Code	106033L4
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in the elderly care service industry who provide clinical care to elderlies. This Competency involves the abilities of analysis and making judgment. Employees are required to assess elderlies' health condition, the reasons for subcutaneous injection and the potential risks of such intervention. Employees should be able to perform injection safely and accurately according to the guidelines of the institution, so as to ensure elderlies receive appropriate treatment.
Level	4
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Basic knowledge of subcutaneous injection</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand basic pharmacological knowledge including the types of medication, action, side effects, normal dosage, routes of administration and expected effects. • Understand the principle to verify drugs, including "3 checks and 5 rights" principle • Understand how to store and manage the stocks of medication • Understand the dosage units and ways to measure and calculate the dosage of different medications • Understand the names of different medication, including their generic and brand names • Understand medical abbreviations in doctor's prescription, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved drug name ○ Dosage unit and frequency of administration ○ Routes of injection. • Understand how to handle the medication and how to use tools, such as dissolution and dilution • Understand the nursing procedures before and after medication injection • Understand the skills required to document medication injection <p>2. Subcutaneous injection</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess elderlies' conditions including health condition, medical history, history of allergy, and condition of the injection area • Verify the procedures correctly, use '3 checks and 5 rights principle' and check if there is any foreign particle or precipitation in the vial before injection • Dissolve and dilute medication in powder form according to instructions if necessary • Explain to elderlies the injection procedures, purpose of medication, the expected feeling during injection and possible responses after injection • Select an appropriate spot for injection • Document the medication used, route of administration and its effects clearly • Handle surplus or expired drugs appropriately • Dispose of the used injection tools properly • Pay attention to how elderlies use the medication and check against the prescribed dosage, so as to avoid overdose or underdose • In case of adverse reaction suspected to be caused by the injection, attend to the case immediately and refer the case to healthcare professionals promptly

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	<p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inject the prescribed medication safely and correctly by leveraging nursing knowledge• Be mindful of the pain elderly may experience because of the injection, and offer comfort
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to assess elderly's health condition and needs, inject medication appropriately according to the guideline of the institution and doctor's prescription; and• Ability to monitor the effects of the medication and elderly's adverse reaction; to ensure elderly's safety when using the medication and ensure their health.
Remark	<p>1. This Unit of Competency is currently practiced by the enrolled nurses and registered nurses with professional and valid licenses.</p> <p>2. For information on specification of competency standards of insulin injection, please refer to the Unit of Competency 'Insulin injection'.</p>