

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Handle Suspected Fracture
Code	106077L3
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in elderly care service industry who provide clinical care to elderlies. This Competency involves the ability of analysis and making judgment. Employees are required to assess the condition of the injury, manage the suspected fracture site appropriately and arrange hospital transportation for the injured, according to relevant procedures and guidelines of the institution in order to prevent exacerbation of the injury and enhance recovery.
Level	3
Credit	1 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Relevant knowledge on fracture</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand relevant procedures and guidelines of the institution regarding management of suspected fracture</li> <li>• Understand the basic physiology and anatomy of muscles, bones and joints</li> <li>• Understand the types and causes of fracture, and the details of injury causing the common fracture</li> <li>• Understand the symptoms of fracture, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Severe localized pain at the site, tenderness when touched, redness, swelling and bruise</li> <li>○ Reduced mobility of the injured limb</li> <li>○ Deformation, distortion and shortening of limb</li> <li>○ Possible sensation of fractured bones rubbing against each other when moving joints</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Understand the methods to assess fracture, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Understand the detail of injury</li> <li>○ Examine the limbs and their mobility of the injured</li> <li>○ Check the Five Ps: pain, pulse, parenthesis, paralysis and paleness</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Understand the management of fracture, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Expose the lesion</li> <li>○ In case of an open fracture, put dressing over the wound before bandaging</li> <li>○ Stabilize the fracture site and the joints above and below using splints, unharmed body parts or limbs and soft pads</li> <li>○ Examine and document blood circulation of the injured site and condition of the joints before and after stabilization of injured limb</li> <li>○ Apply bandage for stabilization at various fracture sites</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Understand standard precautions on infection control</li> </ul> <p>2. Management of suspected fracture</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the actual environment and the condition of the victims, minimize the risk under safe and feasible circumstances, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensure the safety of employees themselves, victims and others present</li> <li>○ Remove obstacles</li> <li>○ Evacuate the crowd</li> <li>○ Move the victims to a safer place</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take standard precautions of infection control if the site of suspected fracture involves a wound, such as wearing gloves before contacting the wound</li> <li>• Assess the cause and severity of the injury, analyse the possibilities of the fracture, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Enquire the injured and witnesses about details of the incidence and how the injury happened</li> <li>○ Examine whether the injured has symptoms of fracture</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Call an ambulance, inform supervisor and request for assistance</li> <li>• Manage suspected fracture site, according to relevant procedures and guidelines of the institution regarding management of suspected fracture, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Comfort the injured and advise him/her not to move the injured limb to avoid exacerbation of condition</li> <li>○ Protect the spine if spine fracture is suspected, do not move the injured haphazardly. Stabilize his/her head using both hands or sandbags to avoid causing damage to the central nervous system</li> <li>○ Use the principles of fracture stabilization to manage fracture</li> <li>○ Use the correct bandaging methods to stabilize fracture at various sites</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Report to the ambulance personnel the sequence of events, the vital signs of the injured and treatments given</li> <li>• Document the entire first-aid procedure in detail, and keep it properly</li> </ul> <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the condition of the injured correctly, and provide appropriate management of fracture</li> <li>• Reduce the pain and discomfort of the injured during the first-aid procedures as much as possible, and avoid further injury to the site</li> <li>• Be mindful of the emotions of the injured, and provide comfort and support</li> <li>• Ensure the safety of the injured and protect his/her privacy</li> </ul>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to assess the condition of the injured, analyse the possibility of fracture; and</li> <li>• Ability to manage the suspected fracture site appropriately, according to relevant procedures and guidelines of the institution regarding management of suspected fracture, and arrange hospital transportation for proper treatment.</li> </ul>
Remark	<p>Employees performing this unit of competency are supposed to have acquired fundamental first-aid knowledge.</p>