

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Remind the Elderly Persons to Take Oral Medications
Code	110782L3
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to practitioners who provide community care services in the elderly care service industry. The application requires performing a broad range of tasks in familiar and some unfamiliar working environments, and its execution requires analytical skills. Practitioners should be able to safely and accurately remind the elderly persons to take oral medications according to the organization's procedures and guidelines.
Level	3
Credit	2 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Relevant knowledge on oral medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the organization's procedures and guidelines for reminding the elderly persons to take oral medications • Understand the basic pharmacology, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medication types and effects ○ Side effects ○ General dosage and route of administration ○ Expected effects, etc. • Understand the methods of keeping, storing and managing medications • Understand the units, measurement and calculation methods of various medication dosages • Understand the doctor's prescription and the abbreviations used, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medication name ○ Dosage, frequency ○ Administration route and form, etc. • Understand the handling procedures before distributing oral medications • Understand the documentation skills for the use of medications in the elderly <p>2. Remind the elderly persons to take oral medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the elderly's medication records and precautions • Explain to the elderly persons the possible reactions after taking the medications • Assess the elderly's swallowing, cognitive and self-care abilities, utilize appropriate equipment and carefully remind them to take medications orally • Instruct the elderly persons/carers to handle oral medications as needed before taking them, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appropriately dilute or dissolve the medication ○ Adjust the consistency of the medication, to help the elderly persons who have dysphagia ○ Crush the medication and dissolve it in warm water, etc. • Assist in observing for abnormalities during tube feeding • Observe the elderly's condition after taking medications, when the elderly is found to be in discomfort, immediately handle and report the situation to medical professionals according to the severity • Appropriately record the reminders, medication process and effects • Pay attention to and remind the elderly persons to check the medication dosage to avoid overdose

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	<p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accurately and safely remind the elderly persons to take oral medications according to the doctor's prescription• Attend to the elderly persons who need oral medications, and meet the special needs of the elderly persons to maintain their confidence and dignity• Observe the elderly's use of medications, appropriately handle, report and record any issues that arise
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Able to safely and accurately remind the elderly persons to take oral medications according to the organization's guidelines and the doctor's prescription; and• Able to observe for the adverse reactions of the medications in the elderly persons, and immediately report to medical professionals, to ensure the safety of the elderly persons while using their medications.
Remark	