

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Design Suitable Living Environments for Patients with Mental Disorders
Code	110784L4
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to practitioners who provide nursing services in the elderly care service industry. The application requires performing skilled tasks in familiar and some new working environments, and its execution requires analytical and decision-making skills. Practitioners should be able to design suitable living environments for patients with mental disorders according to the analysis of their nursing and rehabilitation needs, in order to ensure their safety, privacy and dignity, as well as improve their self-care, work and leisure abilities.
Level	4
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Relevant knowledge on the living environment needs of patients with mental disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the definition, types, causes and symptoms of mental disorders • Understand the principles of psychosocial rehabilitation therapy for patients with mental disorders • Understand the daily routines of patients with mental disorders in the organization or their homes • Understand the principles of designing the living environment for patients with mental disorders • Understand the promotion of mental rehabilitation, establishing environmental designs that support physical psychological and social rehabilitation • Understand the relationship between the environment and health (physical and mental) • Understand the laws, policies and guidelines of the organization and regulatory agencies on the provision of residential services for people with disabilities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Organization's policies and guidelines on privacy and environmental safety ○ The Social Welfare Department's "Service Quality Standards" ○ Chapter 613 of the Hong Kong Legislations "Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance" ○ Chapter 613A of the Hong Kong Legislations "Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Regulation" ○ The Social Welfare Department's "Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities" ○ The Hong Kong Housing Society's "Universal Design Guidebook for Residential Development in Hong Kong" ○ Design manual: Barrier Free Access 2008; Amendments (April 2017) <p>2. Design suitable living environments for patients with mental disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to design suitable residences according to the principles of designing living environments for patients with mental disorders, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create a home atmosphere and familiar environment ○ Incorporate rehabilitation elements, such as: the use of soft curtains and cushions to reduce echoes causing auditory hallucinations, and the use of light to reduce shadows and illusions, etc. ○ Reduce the risk of the missing elderly, such as: alarms to prevent patients from getting lost, etc. ○ Use different rooms to integrate and coordinate different services, in order to facilitate different professional services, such as: activity room, treatment room, interview room, etc.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Respect the elderly's autonomy, self-determination and privacy when designing the living environment ○ Utilize various gerontechnology in cases of low self-care, work and leisure abilities, etc. ● Able to take into account the patient's nursing and rehabilitation needs, and further optimize the living environment, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physiological aspects, such as: for patients with poor eyesight, utilize large signs appropriately, and improve the contrast between the handrail color and wall color, etc. ○ Psychological aspects, such as: providing predictable activity resources, developing daily activity schedules to reduce patient anxiety, etc. ○ Social aspects, such as: designing shared spaces and diversified group activities to help improve the patient's social skills, communication skills and self-confidence, etc. ○ Environmental aspects, such as: assessment of environmental safety falls risk, air circulation, etc. <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Able to design the living environment for patients with mental disorders, while respecting their autonomy, privacy and self-determination rights ● Ensure that the living environment complies with the standards of regulatory agencies and the relevant laws and regulations ● Attend to the patient's personal feelings, provide support and understanding to improve their confidence and trust
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Able to design suitable, comfortable and safe living environments for the patient according to their physical, psychological, social, nursing and rehabilitation needs, as well as the principles of designing the living environment for patients with mental disorders, in order to improve their self-care, work and leisure abilities.
Remark	