

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

Functional Area - Home and Community Care

Title	Assess the Safety of Home Environments
Code	110862L5
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to practitioners who provide clinical home safety assessments in the elderly care service industry. The application requires the demonstration of in-depth expertise or theoretical knowledge in a range of technical, professional or managerial working environments, and its execution requires careful thinking, critical analysis and decision-making skills. Practitioners should be able to perform appropriate assessments, record, analyze and suggest feasible improvement plans in different elderly living environments, and understand the resources that the community can provide to help improve the elderly's environmental safety.
Level	5
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Relevant knowledge on home environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the benefits of safe environments, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce the risk of falls ○ Improve resilience in emergencies ○ Avoid disabling accidents, etc. • Understand the common housing types in Hong Kong, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public rental housing ○ Tenant purchase ○ Subsidized sales of flats ○ Private houses ○ Transitional housing, etc. • Understand the items for environmental assessment, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ House size ○ Size of bedroom, bathroom, shower room, kitchen, living room, etc. ○ Type and size of furniture ○ Housing category: renting, self-owned or family property, etc. • Understand the relationship between the lives of the elderly persons and the environment, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joint movement ○ Daily routines, etc. • Understand the resources to improve home safety, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Housing Department's improvement programme ○ The Housing Society's "Ageing-in-Place Scheme" Project ○ Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners, etc. <p>2. Assess the safety of home environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the elderly's physical functions, living abilities and community participation abilities • Measure the size of different rooms in the elderly's home • Assess the elderly's abilities, limitations and risks for performing daily activities at home • Inspect the existing environmental safety equipment at home, such as: the conditions of safety handrails, ramps, etc. • Develop home safety assessment reports, and intervene in the improvement of home environment safety based on education, treatment, training, and appliances

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly communicate with the elderly persons, carers and the healthcare team to understand the living conditions and risks of the elderly persons at home, and whether the recommendations of the report can be effectively executed <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectively and comprehensively assess the risks of the diversified living environments of different elderly's home environment • Develop relevant assessment reports, point out the dangers and perform precise intervention measures • Listen to and respect the opinions of the elderly persons and their carers, and suggest relevant improvements
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to conduct comprehensive and in-depth assessments, analyze the elderly's home dangers and risks, and develop appropriate recommendations on safety and required resources; and • Able to actively maintain communication with the elderly persons and their carers, and continue to improve the awareness on the safety of home environments.
Remark	