

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Understand Medication (including General and Psychiatric Medicines)
Code	106024L3
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in the elderly care service industry who provide clinical nursing care to elderlies. This Competency involves abilities of analysis and making correct judgment. Employees are required to have knowledge on medications and to handle medication correctly according to the learning resources provided by the institution .
Level	3
Credit	6 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Fundamental knowledge about drugs</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand fundamental pharmacological knowledge, including the types of medication, their effects, side effects, usual dosage, routes of administration and expected therapeutic effects.</li> <li>• Understand the principles in checking medication, including the "3 Checks and 5 Rights" principle</li> <li>• Understand the security, storage and management of medication</li> <li>• Understand drug safety and the proper handling of medication</li> <li>• Understand the dosage unit of different medication, the measurement and calculation</li> <li>• Understand the different names of medication, including the generic names and brand names</li> <li>• Understand how to read doctors' prescription, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recognized abbreviation of medication</li> <li>○ Dosage units</li> <li>○ Abbreviation of frequency and route of administration</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>2. Understand medication</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate regularly in training courses and sharing sessions provided or recommended by the institution, to acquire updated information</li> <li>• Enquire healthcare professionals about issues on different medication</li> <li>• Identify the clinical effects and side-effects of different medication</li> </ul> <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regularly participate in training courses recognized by the institution to acquire updated medication knowledge</li> <li>• Take initiative to acquire new medication knowledge</li> </ul>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirement of this Unit of Competency is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to acquire fundamental knowledge and updated medication information, so as to ensure proper handling of medication.</li> </ul>
Remark	For details of the frequently used medication in residential care homes, please refer to Guide on Drug Management in Residential Care Homes.