

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Insulin Injection
Code	106031L3
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in the elderly care service industry who provide clinical care to elderlies. This Competency involves ability of analysis and making judgement. Employees are required to assess elderlies' health condition and reasons for insulin injection while analysing the risks of such intervention; and inject insulin safely and accurately according to the relevant guidelines of the institution, so as to ensure elderlies receive proper treatment.
Level	3
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Basic knowledge of insulin injection</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the pathology of diabetes and pharmacology of insulin treatment • Understand the basic pharmacological knowledge of drugs including the types, uses, side effects, dosage, routes of administration and expected therapeutic effects. • Understand the principle to check and verify drugs, including “3 checks and 5 rights principle” • Understand the methods of insulin security, storage and management • Understand insulin’s dosage unit and ways of measurement • Understand the names of different types of insulin, including the generic and brand names • Understand medical abbreviation in doctor’s prescription, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved drug name ○ Dosage unit and frequency of administration ○ Routes of injection. • Understand ways and techniques of insulin injection, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insulin pens ○ Subcutaneous injection • Understand nursing procedures before and after insulin injection • Understand the skills to document insulin injection <p>2. Insulin injection</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess elderly’s conditions, including the reasons of drug usage, diet, past medical history, history of allergy, blood glucose level, . • Check and verify the prescriptions correctly, i.e. “3 checks and 5 rights” principle • Explain to elderlies the steps of injection, how they would feel during the injection and the risks of hypoglycemic symptoms after injection such as dizziness and palpitation; and tell elderlies to inform employees or caregivers as soon as possible should such symptoms appear. • Adopt correct injection procedures, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ choice of appropriate injection device ○ replacement of drugs ○ adjustment of injection device for the appropriate dosage . • Conduct proper nursing care procedures before and after injection, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ensure elderlies have consumed food before injection ○ clean and disinfect the injection area before injection

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Care for the injected area after the injection ● Inject medication on different parts of body to promote absorption ● Observe elderlies' condition, response to drugs and the effects of medication, for example, check their blood glucose level after injection ● Document clearly the used medication, route of administration and its effects ● Handle surplus or expired drugs properly ● Dispose of used injection tools properly ● Detect any adverse drug reactions, such as, hypoglycemic symptoms, attend to the case immediately and refer the elderlies to healthcare professionals promptly <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inject the prescribed insulin to elderlies safely and correctly leveraging nursing knowledge ● Ensure elderlies consume food as usual before and after injection to avoid hypoglycemia ● Be mindful of the pain elderlies may experience during injection, and offer comfort
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ability to assess elderlies' health condition, inject insulin to elderlies correctly according to guidelines of the institution and doctor's prescription; and ● Ability to monitor the effects of insulin injection and elderlies' adverse reaction and inform healthcare professionals immediately if necessary; to ensure elderlies' safety when using insulin and ensure their health.
Remark	