

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

Functional Area - Clinical Care

Title	Perform Intramuscular Injection
Code	106034L4
Range	This Unit of Competency is applicable to employees in elderly care service industry who provide clinical care to elderlies. This Competency involves the ability to analyse and make judgment. Employees are required to assess elderlies' health conditions and their reasons for receiving injection; analyse the risks of such intervention and perform the injection safely and accurately according to guidelines of the institution, so as to ensure elderlies receive appropriate treatment.
Level	4
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Basic knowledge of intramuscular injection</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand basic pharmacological knowledge including the types of medication, action, side effects, normal dosage, routes of administration and expected effects.</li> <li>• Understand the principle of drug verification, including “3 checks and 5 rights” principle</li> <li>• Understand methods of drug security, storage and management</li> <li>• Understand dosage units and ways to measure and calculate different medications</li> <li>• Understand the names of different medication, including their generic and brand names</li> <li>• Understand medical abbreviations in doctor's prescription, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Approved drug name</li> <li>○ Dosage unit and frequency of administration</li> <li>○ Routes of injection, .</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Understand how to handle the injectable medication and how to use tools such as dissolution and dilution</li> <li>• Understand the nursing procedures before and after medication injection</li> <li>• Understand the skills required to document injection of medication</li> </ul> <p>2. Intramuscular injection</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess elderlies' conditions including health condition, medical history, history of allergy, and condition of the injection area</li> <li>• Verify the procedures correctly, use “3 checks and 5 rights” principle and check if there is any foreign particle or precipitation in the vial before injection</li> <li>• Dissolve and dilute medication in powder form according to the instructions if necessary</li> <li>• Explain to elderlies about the injection procedures, purpose of medication, the expected feeling during injection and possible responses after injection</li> <li>• According to the prescribed dosage, type of medicine and the health condition of elderlies, choose the appropriate muscle for injection and circle the injection point clearly</li> <li>• Take care measures before and after injection such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Before injection, clean and disinfect the injection area;</li> <li>○ After injection, care for the injected area</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Monitor the effectiveness of medication and reactions of elderlies after injection</li> <li>• Document the used medication, route of administration and the effects clearly</li> <li>• Handle surplus or expired drugs appropriately</li> <li>• Dispose of the used injection tools properly</li> <li>• Pay attention to how elderlies use the medication and check against the prescribed dosage, so as to avoid overdose or underdose</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In case of any adverse reaction suspected to be caused by the injection, attend to the case immediately and refer the case to healthcare professionals promptly</li> </ul> <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <p>Be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inject the prescribed medication safely and correctly by leveraging nursing knowledge</li> <li>• Be mindful to the pain elderlies may experience due to injection, and offer comfort</li> </ul>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this Unit of Competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to assess elderlies' health condition and needs, inject medication appropriately according to the guideline of the institution and doctor's prescription; and</li> <li>• Ability to monitor the effectiveness of the medication and any adverse reaction, to ensure elderlies' safety while using the medication and ensure their health</li> </ul>
Remark	<p>This Unit of Competency is currently practiced by the enrolled nurses and registered nurses with professional and valid licenses.</p>