

SFHCHS190 - SQA Code HD0M 04

Investigate at a microscopic level



Overview

This is a broad based standard which is applicable to all forms of microscopic investigation except electron microscopy (this is covered by specific Healthcare Science standards). It covers the use of a microscope by all healthcare professionals in a variety of clinical settings.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 follow the appropriate standing operating procedures, policies, protocols and Quality Assurance methods for the type of microscopic investigation and biological containment level requirements
 - P2 confirm the equipment to be used is fit for purpose and practice
 - P3 place the material to be investigated as appropriate for the microscopy technique being used
 - P4 check the specimen/sample is suitable for investigation once it is on the stage
 - P5 use the microscope appropriately and examine the required fields identified, looking for abnormal/normal structures, abnormal/normal appearance or artefacts as appropriate
 - P6 record the findings of your investigation using appropriate documentation processes and in accordance with confidentiality requirements
 - P7 take appropriate action to respond to an unexpected situation, problem or event
 - P8 remove the specimen/sample once the investigation is complete and store or dispose of it as appropriate
 - P9 ensure that the microscope is left in a suitable condition for future use

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 methods of ensuring unique identification of specimens and the importance of doing so
- K2 the relevant statutory, regulatory and legislative requirements and guidance
- K3 methods of preparation of specimens/samples for microscopic investigation
- K4 the correct equipment, methods of preparation and calibration for different circumstances and microscopic techniques
- K5 the importance of ensuring that the equipment is left in the appropriate condition once investigation is complete
- K6 differing types of microscopic investigation methods and their purpose
- K7 possible findings from microscopic investigations, including biological or mineral structures, abnormal or normal cells, and artefacts
- K8 factors that may influence the successful microscopic investigation of a sample/specimen and their significance
- K9 the importance of working effectively to make efficient use of resources and meet prioritisation needs, especially with regard to urgent samples/specimens
- K10 the relevant standard operating procedures and QA methods and their importance
- K11 contingency and risk assessments relating to microscopic investigation of specimens/samples

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB8 Biomedical investigation and intervention

The candidate and assessor must only sign below when all Performance Criteria and Knowledge points have been met.

Unit assessed as being complete

Candidate's Name:	
Candidate's Signature:	
Date submitted to assessor as complete:	

Assessor's Name:	
Assessor's Signature:	
Date assessed as complete:	

Internal Verification —

to be completed in accordance with centre's IV strategy

Evidence for this Unit was sampled on the following date/s:	IV's Signature	IV's Name

This Unit has been subject to an admin check in keeping with the centre's IV strategy.

Date of admin check	IV's Signature	IV's Name

Unit completion confirmed

IV's Name:	
IV's Signature:	
Date complete:	