

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Unit code: DR3R 34

Unit purpose: This Unit will enable the candidate to demonstrate competence in understanding the needs of individuals who require health care. Candidates will develop an understanding of values and principles that underpin quality health care practice. The candidate will understand the care planning process and the establishment and maintenance of a positive health care environment and its effects on the individual in need of health care.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Explain how health care values and principles influence practice.
- 2 Understand and apply the care planning process.
- 3 Investigate and explain how to establish and maintain a positive health care environment for the individual.

Credit points and level: 1 HN Credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Candidates should have good communication skills, both written and oral. These can be evidenced either by the achievement of nationally recognised qualifications for example Higher English or a qualification equivalent to SCQF level 6 or by the completion of a pre-course interview part of which could take the form of a written assignment. The skills to undertake this Unit could also be demonstrated through an employer's reference or the process of application and interview. In addition to this candidates should preferably have undertaken some work experience, paid or voluntary, in a health care setting.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of:

Communication at SCQF level 5
Problem Solving at SCQF level 5
Working with Others at SCQF level 5
Information Technology at SCQF level 5

in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

General information for centres (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment: Assessment could take the form of an integrated case study generated from the candidate's work setting to cover all Outcomes.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Explain how health care values and principles influence practice

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Personal values in the context of health care values and dealing with value conflicts
- ◆ Values and their influence on practice, including individuality, confidentiality and the promotion of independence
- ◆ Core values as expressed in the National Care Standards and their translation to principles of practice
- ◆ Agency policies and legislation relating to these values and practices
- ◆ Concepts of discrimination and anti-discriminatory practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain the importance and relevance of values and how they underpin health care practice
- ◆ understand rights and choices, which include dignity, privacy, safety, realising potential, equality and diversity
- ◆ explain concepts such as confidentiality, individuality and identity within the health care context
- ◆ demonstrate understanding of discrimination and anti-discriminatory practice as applied to individuals receiving care
- ◆ examine a conflict situation from practice involving health care values and personal values

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Assessment guidelines

The candidate will be assessed by the compilation of a case study of an individual from their work practice. The case study should be about 2,000–2,500 words and should integrate all of the Outcomes from this Unit as they apply to a particular individual's need of health care. The case study will be anonymous to ensure confidentiality. It will show the involvement of the individual receiving care and other significant personnel in the planning process.

Outcome 2

Investigate and explain the factors necessary to establish and maintain a positive care environment for the individual

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Role of the health care team
- ◆ Agency policy and procedures
- ◆ Power differentials between staff and users of the service
- ◆ Theories of teamwork and collaborative working
- ◆ Application of the value base for the individual receiving health care
- ◆ The needs of the individual including physical, social, cognitive and emotional
- ◆ Care practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ show their personal contribution to the working of the team in its attempt to establish and maintain a positive health care environment for the individual
- ◆ explain the various roles and the working of teams using at least one relevant theory
- ◆ explain the importance of working collaboratively with other disciplines and agencies in the provision of quality care
- ◆ apply agency policy and procedures to ensure value base working contributes to positive care environment
- ◆ identify the needs of the individual holistically over the developmental areas as listed above

Assessment guidelines

As that stated in Outcome 1. This Outcome should be integrated with Outcomes 1 and 3 within the context of a case study.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Outcome 3

Understand and apply the health care planning process

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Stages of care planning
- ◆ The developmental needs of individuals
- ◆ Relevant legislation and agency policy
- ◆ Involvement of the individual
- ◆ Risk assessment
- ◆ Recording an effective care plan

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ understand the care planning process in meeting the needs of an individual having cognisance to the value base and positive care environment
- ◆ explain each stage of the care planning process and how this is applied in the workplace.
- ◆ show understanding of relevant legislation and agency policy as it relates to the care planning process
- ◆ demonstrate the centrality of the individual and significant others within the process
- ◆ recognise that the care planning process must at all times respect the individual's beliefs and preferences
- ◆ recognise the importance of confidentiality of information
- ◆ recognise and demonstrate the importance of involving individuals in their plan of care
- ◆ produce an effective plan of care for an individual

Assessment guidelines

As that stated in at Outcome 1. This Outcome should be integrated with Outcome 1 and 2 within the context of a case study undertaken within the candidate's workplace.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DR3R 34
Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals
Superclass category: PA
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History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Outcome 1

This Outcome requires the candidate to display knowledge and understanding of the values from a personal, professional and societal perspective. Candidates should be aware of professional values as identified in the National Care Standards, Code of Practice for Health Care, statements of aims and other appropriate policy documents. The website — www.scotland.gov.uk/publications may be of assistance. Candidates require to develop a reflective approach to the application of values within the health care context. How values and attitudes are established and changed should be encouraged. Candidates should be critically evaluative of their own values and how these impact on individuals within the care context. The candidate requires to understand the conflict between personal and professional values and the importance of maintaining the professional base of their organisation.

Candidates must develop an understanding of how values underpin anti-discriminatory practice. The various levels of discrimination should be explored — personal, cultural and structural. Candidates should be able to understand and provide examples at each level. Candidates can explore how institutionalisation, stigma, service delivery and social stratifications can contribute to the existence of discrimination in the care context and explore ways in which this can be challenged.

Candidates should have a working knowledge of relevant legislation and agency policy, which underpins values within the workplace. The candidate should be able to apply the tenor of these to their work placement in the delivery of a value based quality health care provision. For example, Human Rights Act 1998, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, Regulation of Care Act 2001, National Care Standards. The Scottish Executive website www.scotland.gov.uk can offer candidates the opportunity to research various aspects of policy and legislation.

Outcome 2

In this Outcome candidates need to evidence their understanding of the working of teams and the roles that individuals take or are ascribed. The concept of team working should be focused on how this contributes to the establishment and maintenance of a positive care environment. The aspect of consistency within the team in terms of working practices but also in relation to shared values and how the team implement the value base for service users should be explored. Some theories and concepts of teams should be explored. For example, group processes, shared or conflicting aims, task versus process, composition and motivation.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Candidates also required to understand the wider view of inter-disciplinary and inter-agency working. This will include the concept of collaborative working. Again the aspect of maintaining shared values should be discussed and the difficulties and issues which may arise in relation to collaboration should be explored. Relevant agency policy and procedures should be highlighted and discussed. The issue of power differentials that could arise between staff and service user should be highlighted and candidates clear on how to minimise the possibility of use and abuse of power within the health care setting. The process of empowering the service user should be discussed and ways on how this can be achieved can be highlighted. The concept of empowered service users should also have a positive effect on minimising misuse of power.

Candidates must be aware of the development needs of the individual across the aspects of physical, cognitive, social, emotional and cultural development. The candidate should be able to recognise the various aspects of these within each category as well as being able to understand the inter-relationship between them. This will allow the candidate to be able to understand the holistic needs of the individual, which will offer better service delivery.

In meeting the above the candidate should be ensuring the establishment and maintenance of a positive care environment. The delivery of the values including promotion of individual rights, confidentiality, dignity, privacy, anti-discriminatory practice, etc will assist this process. Candidates should be aware of the policies that underpin good practice and have an understanding that a safe environment is not simply one, which is physically safe but emotionally safe and socially supportive.

Outcome 3

Candidates have to evidence their ability to make a holistic assessment of individuals receiving care. They should include the aspects in Outcomes 1 and 2 and explain the importance of these issues within the care planning process and the benefits to the individual. Candidates should understand the reasons for care plans and the care planning process. It is understood that health care candidates may be in a variety of health related work placements. Each of these placements will have a variety of care planning processes. The candidate should have an understanding of the areas to be covered in a care plan. They should be aware of relevant legislation, agency policy and the role of these within the planning process. The actual format of the planning process should meet the needs of individual placements and the service user and thus should show evidence of a needs-led assessment and individualistic approach.

Candidates should be given the opportunity to be involved in the development and implementation of a care plan. It is recognised that this will be within the limitations of confidentiality. This may mean that candidates are restricted in their role but they should be included as much as possible. They must also ensure the service user is at the centre of this process. The candidate, with the guidance and support of a mentor or supervisor, should ensure the individual service user is clearly involved in the process. The candidate should ensure the individual's beliefs and preferences are listened to and adhered to within the process.

Promotion of independence and the empowerment of the service user should be clearly evidenced. Risk assessment is an integral part of care planning and where this has been a feature of the process this should be clearly identified. The candidate should play an active role in the above process and have cognisance to all the relevant issues in the compilation of an individual care plan.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Some Allied Health Professions eg Diagnostic Imaging, have very little input in care plans. Radiotherapy would, but not in X-departments. Candidates should however be aware of the patient pathway and their role within it.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Positive Health Care for Individuals is a mandatory Unit within the HNC Health Care.

It is recommended that Core Skills are completed alongside this Unit. It may be possible, as previously indicated, to integrate Core Skills to the Unit delivery. It is recommended this Unit be delivered early in the course as it raises many issues, which are crucial to the health care task in relation to the interaction of the candidate. They require to achieve this within the framework of a positive value base whilst establishing and maintaining a positive health care environment. The Unit should offer candidates the opportunity to take classroom theory to the workplace and to apply this within a real situation. The Unit will be assessed by means of an integrated case study, which must cover all the necessary skills and knowledge and provide appropriate evidence to support this.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of:

Communication at SCQF level 5
Problem Solving at SCQF level 5
Working with Others at SCQF level 5
Information Technology at SCQF level 5

in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Communication: will be evidenced via the candidate's work with individuals and groups as well as within written assignments.

Problem Solving: critical thinking, planning and organising, reviewing and evaluating will be evidenced through supervision in the candidate's workplace and within written assignments.

Working with Others: will again be evidenced in the candidate's workplace via their ability to interact, communicate and negotiate with those with whom they come into contact.

Information Technology: could be evidenced by the use of standard applications to obtain and process information and data for assignments.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence. Arrangements would have to be made to ensure that a mentor or supervisor within the workplace supports the single assessment for all Outcomes.

For further information and advice, please see *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* (SQA, February 2001 — publication code A1030).

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Alternative Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Positive Health Care for Individuals

This Unit is designed to enable you to understand the need to consider ways of working purposefully and effectively with individuals receiving health care. You will learn the importance of a positive value base within a positive care environment. You will learn how to ensure your involvement with service users has a positive impact on them. You will learn the importance of putting the individual at the centre of your interactions. You will adhere to the needs of the individual and ensure you protect their right and choices. It will be necessary to question your own personal value base and be able to analyse this in relation to the organisational value base and be able to debate and understand the conflicts, which could arise between these.

You will learn about the workings of teams and the importance of teamwork in the delivery of a quality care environment for individuals. You will learn about the different roles of the health team both within your workplace and within the wider environment. You will be introduced to the issues of collaboration and the understanding of the need to have a working knowledge of legislation and agency policy within the delivery of care. The empowerment of the individual receiving care will also be explained and you will learn about the difficulties in achieving this and ways in which it can be implemented.

For this Unit you are required to be in a health care placement. You will apply the learning to your placement. The assessment for the Unit is a holistic one. You will produce, in collaboration with the relevant personnel and the service user, a care plan. You will require to integrate all of the learning for this Unit within this live case study. You will require to adhere to the principle of confidentiality when undertaking this.