

DK31 04 (HSC342/GE2) Assess and act upon immediate risk of danger to substance users

Elements of competence

HSC342.1	Assess the immediate risk of danger to the individual
HSC342.2	Act upon the immediate risk of danger to the individual
HSC342.3	Support the individual after the immediate risk of danger has passed

About this Unit

For this Unit you will need to assess the immediate risk of danger to individuals who have used substances, act upon the immediate risk of danger and support the individual once the immediate risk of danger has passed.

Scope

The scope is here to give you guidance on possible areas to be covered in this Unit. The terms in this section give you a list of options linked with items in the performance criteria. You need to provide evidence for any option related to your work area.

Substances: illegal drugs; prescription drugs; over the counter drugs; alcohol; solvents; other.

Risk of danger: of overdose; of individuals causing injury or harm to themselves; of causing injury or harm to people around the individual; of causing injury or harm to people working with the individual.

Support and assistance from: people around the individual; colleagues within your service/agency; emergency services.

Needs: personal (eg washing, eating and drinking, dressing); mobility (eg transportation); further immediate treatment and care.

Consequences: to themselves; to their family and significant others; to people working with the individual.

Required format: verbal; written.

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

It is essential that you adhere to the Evidence Requirements for this Unit – please see details overleaf.

SPECIFIC EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT
Simulation:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simulation is NOT permitted for any part of this unit.
The following forms of evidence ARE mandatory:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Observation: Your assessor or an expert witness must observe you in real work activities which provide a significant amount of the performance criteria for most of the elements in this unit. For example your assessor may see you identify that an individual is at risk and respond appropriately or you may be working with another professional undertaking an assessment of an individual who is a substance user. • Reflective Account/professional discussion: These will be a description of your practice in particular situations based on working practices. For example you could explain what aspects of an individual's behaviour led you to consider they were at risk, what actions you took and what the outcomes of your actions were. It is likely that this would also provide evidence for the mandatory units in the award particularly where you have demonstrated knowledge of legislation, policy and procedures relevant to the task.
Competence of performance and knowledge could also be demonstrated using a variety of evidence from the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questioning/professional discussion: May be used to provide evidence of knowledge, legislation, policies and procedures which cannot be fully evidenced through direct observation or reflective accounts. In addition the assessor/expert witness may also ask questions to clarify aspects of your practice. • Expert Witness: A designated expert witness may provide direct observation of practice, questioning, professional discussion and feedback on reflective accounts. • Witness testimony: Can be a confirmation or authentication of the activities described in your evidence which your assessor has not seen. This could be provided by a work colleague, an individual receiving care or other key person. • Products: These can be risk assessments, incident records and reports, diary evidence of day to day practice. You need not put confidential records in your portfolio, they can remain where they are normally stored and be checked by your assessor and internal verifier. If you do include them in your portfolio they should be anonymised to ensure confidentiality.
GENERAL GUIDANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commencing this unit you should agree and complete an assessment plan with your assessor which details the assessment methods you will be using, and the tasks you will be undertaking to demonstrate your competence. • Evidence must be provided for ALL of the performance criteria ALL of the knowledge and the parts of the scope that are relevant to your job role. • The evidence must reflect the policies and procedures of your workplace and be linked to current legislation, values and the principles of best practice within the Care Sector. This will include the National Service Standards for your areas of work and the individuals you care for. • All evidence must relate to your own work practice.

KNOWLEDGE SPECIFICATION FOR THIS UNIT

Competent practice is a combination of the application of skills and knowledge informed by values and ethics. This specification details the knowledge and understanding required to carry out competent practice in the performance described in this unit.

When using this specification **it is important to read the knowledge requirements in relation to expectations and requirements of your job role.**

You need to provide evidence for ALL knowledge points listed below. There are a variety of ways this can be achieved so it is essential that you read the ‘knowledge evidence’ section of the Assessment Guidance.

You need to show that you know, understand and can apply in practice:	Enter Evidence Numbers
Values	
1 The rights of individuals with whom you come into contact.	
Legislation and organisational policy and procedures	
2 Legal and organisational requirements and policies requirements relevant to the functions being carried out.	
Legislation	
3 Legal requirements relevant to the functions being carried out.	
Local Knowledge	
4 The partner agencies in the local area.	
Organisational context	
5 The organisation’s policies and procedures in dealing with risk of danger to individuals.	
Theory and practice	
Communication and interpersonal skills	
6 How to communicate effectively in a range of different settings.	
7 How to calm individuals who have used substances.	
8 How to calm other people in the immediate vicinity.	
First aid	
9 When and how to move an individual to make them comfortable.	
10 When and how to administer first aid to individuals.	
11 When to call the emergency services.	
Information Handling	
12 The importance of gathering full and accurate information and how to do so.	
Reporting	
13 How to report accurately.	
14 The importance of stating any gaps in information or assumptions made.	
Substance misuse	
15 How to recognise and deal with immediate risk of danger to individuals who have used substances.	
16 The range of different substances and their effects.	
17 The appropriate actions/options available when the immediate risk of danger has passed.	

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HSC342.1 Assess the immediate risk of danger to the individual

Performance criteria		DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
		1	You ascertain any signs of immediate risk of danger .				
2	You request further support and assistance, as required, without delay.						
3	You ascertain your own and any person near the individual's personal safety.						
4	You make the individual aware that you are available and willing to help.						
5	You obtain personal details from the individual or any person near the individual who has used the substance .						
6	You obtain information on the substance used, from the individual or any person near the individual who has used the substance.						
7	You encourage the individual to describe any pain or discomfort they may be experiencing.						
8	You accurately record all information about the episode and report to appropriate person in the required format .						

HSC342.2 Act upon the immediate risk of danger to the individual

Performance criteria		DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
		1	You act upon the immediate risks to danger consistent with agency policies and procedures and your own role.				
2	You request further support and assistance, if required, without delay.						
3	You ensure your own personal safety and of any other person near the individual.						
4	You take actions which are appropriate to the substance used and the effect it has had on the individual.						
5	You take steps to calm the individual, if the individual is in an agitated stage, if safe to do so.						
6	You take immediate steps to revive the individual, if the individual seems to be in a withdrawn state.						
7	You administer first aid, if safe to do so.						
8	You interact with the individual in a manner which recognises their needs and rights.						

DO = Direct Observation
EW = Expert Witness

RA = Reflective Account
P = Product (Work)

Q = Questions
WT = Witness Testimony

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HSC342.2 Act upon the immediate risk of danger to the individual (cont)

Performance criteria		DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
		9	You make the individual as comfortable as possible and only move the individual if necessary for their safety.				
10	You make the environment as safe as possible and remove all dangerous substances and materials.						
11	You accurately record all information and report to the appropriate person in the required format.						

HSC342.3 Support the individual after the immediate risk of danger has passed

Performance criteria		DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
		1	You make the individual aware that you are available and willing to help.				
2	You interact with the individual in a manner which recognises their needs and rights.						
3	You support the individual to enable them to meet their needs .						
4	You encourage the individual to recognise the consequences of the episode.						
5	You encourage the individual to seek further support and assistance.						
6	You accurately record all information and report to the appropriate person in the required format.						

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To be completed by the Candidate

I SUBMIT THIS AS A COMPLETE UNIT

Candidate's name:

Candidate's signature:

Date:

To be completed by the Assessor

It is a shared responsibility of both the candidate and assessor to claim evidence, however, it is the responsibility of the assessor to ensure the accuracy/validity of each evidence claim and make the final decision.

I CERTIFY THAT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE HAS BEEN PRODUCED TO MEET ALL THE ELEMENTS, PCS AND KNOWLEDGE OF THIS UNIT.

Assessor's name:

Assessor's signature:

Date:

Assessor/Internal Verifier Feedback

To be completed by the Internal Verifier if applicable

This section only needs to be completed if the Unit is sampled by the Internal Verifier

Internal Verifier's name:

Internal Verifier's signature:

Date: