



**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION****STATEMENT OF STANDARDS****UNIT NUMBER:** 5150054**UNIT TITLE:** ARTIFICIAL NAIL STRUCTURES

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

**OUTCOME**

1. PREPARE FOR TREATMENTS INVOLVING ARTIFICIAL NAIL STRUCTURES TO THE HAND

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) The client is correctly positioned for treatment.
- (b) Contra indications to treatment are recognised and appropriate action is taken.
- (c) The client's hands are clean, dry and existing nail enamel is removed.
- (d) Preparatory products and techniques are applied without causing undue damage to the nailplate.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

Contra indications: eczema; ringworm; nail infections; fungi; warts; inflammation; sepsis; cuts; abrasions; exposed nail bed.

Products: antiseptic solutions; pre application treatments and solutions.

Equipment: manicure impliments; linens; arm rests/pillows.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

Practical evidence of the candidate's ability to make appropriate preparations prior to treatment.

Practical and written evidence of the candidate's ability to recognise contra indications to treatment.

**OUTCOME****2. PROVIDE ARTIFICIAL NAIL STRUCTURE SERVICES****PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Artificial nail structures selected are agreed in consultation with the client.
- (b) Artificial nail structures are applied or repaired using materials, techniques which are in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.
- (c) Artificial nail structures are removed as and when indicated.
- (d) The treatment results meet with the client's expectations.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

Nail structures: ready formed extensions; sculptured artificial nails.

Treatments: original application; repair; removal; infill due to natural nail growth.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

Practical evidence of the candidate's ability to perform treatments safely, effectively and to the client's satisfaction.

**OUTCOME****3. PROVIDE ADVICE ON CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF ARTIFICIAL NAIL STRUCTURES****PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Procedures for home maintenance of artificial nail structures is clearly explained to the client.
- (b) Suitable home care products are recommended and their usage explained in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.
- (c) Action to be taken in event of damage or infection is explained fully to the client.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

Home maintenance of: ready formed extensions; sculptured nails.

Procedures for damage avoidance: mechanical; chemical.

Contra actions: softening of nail bed; mould on nail bed.

Aftercare procedures: return to treatment provider for; infill due to natural nail growth; damage repair/renewal; infection or deterioration of nail plate/bed.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

Written and practical evidence of the candidate's ability to provide full and accurate advice to clients on homecare and maintenance of nail extensions.

**ASSESSMENT RECORDS**

In order to achieve this unit, candidates are required to present sufficient evidence that they have met all the performance criteria for each outcome within the range specified. Details of these requirements are given for each outcome. The assessment instruments used should follow the general guidance offered by the SQA assessment model and an integrative approach to assessment is encouraged. (See references at the end of support notes).

Accurate records should be made of assessment instruments used showing how evidence is generated for each outcome and giving marking schemes and/or checklists, etc. Records of candidates' achievements should be kept. These records will be available for external verification.

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

In certain cases, modified outcomes and range statements can be proposed for certification. See references at end of Support Notes.

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**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION****SUPPORT NOTES**

**UNIT NUMBER:** 5150054

**UNIT TITLE:** ARTIFICIAL NAIL STRUCTURES

**SUPPORT NOTES:** This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

**NOTIONAL DESIGN LENGTH:** SQA allocates a notional design length to a unit on the basis of time estimated for achievement of the stated standards by a candidate whose starting point is as described in the access statement. The notional design length for this unit is 40 hours. The use of notional design length for programme design and timetabling is advisory only.

**PURPOSE** This is a specialist module which develops skills complimentary to the manicuring skills of module 5150044 Nail Care.

SQA publishes summaries of NC units for easy reference, publicity purposes, centre handbooks, etc. The summary statement for this unit is as follows:

This module develops specialist skills in the application, repairs and maintenance of nail extensions. In it you will learn how to perform artificial nail extension treatments and advise on aftercare. You will also learn about products available for aftercare.

**CONTENT/CONTEXT** Corresponding to outcomes 1-3:

1. Candidates should have a sound knowledge of the process of nail growth and the structure of the nail and nail bed in order that they may understand the consequence of damage during application or in subsequent use.

Contra indications to treatment should be identified and recognised as such. These should not be confused with nail disorders arising from reaction to artificial nail structures although both sets of conditions would prohibit treatment and may result in medical referral.

The function and application of nail protective products should be fully explained in terms of nail health/hygiene and/or those essential to the process.

The process will essentially cause some damage to the nail plate - this damage should always be minimal and candidates should be aware of the long term effects of excessive trauma.

2. Client consultation and agreement should always precede application as this is not a reversible process and candidates should be aware of the necessity to communicate clearly in order that the finished result is as close as possible to the client's previously expressed requirement.

Current trends and available products will dictate the range of materials available to the candidate at any given time. Centres should ensure that the range of products available should be sufficient to provide the candidate with a full range of treatment options.

Manufacturers' instructions should always be followed and candidates should be aware, that similar products may differ in application methods, aftercare or removal. Failure to adhere to manufacturers' instructions could adversely effect treatments.

3. The need to provide the client with sufficient aftercare advice should be clear. This should include damage avoidance in daily care and the possible consequences of mechanical and chemical damage. The procedures required to infill areas of natural nail growth and the procedures for removal of the structures.

Clients must be aware of the need to return to the provider to check any damage and to carry out maintenance as required.

**APPROACHES TO GENERATING EVIDENCE** Apart from the essential knowledge base involving disease and contra-indications much of the work of the module is candidate centred.

Demonstrations of standard treatment practices by tutor and/or outside agencies should be followed by practical application by the candidates.

All practical activities could be carried out by pairs in the first instance working on models to encourage self and peer assessment.

Checklists could be devised by the candidates for this purpose.

Live examples will not always be available for identification of conditions and contra indications so pictures and video information could substitute for live examples.

The knowledge elements in this module could be evidenced by the production of case studies and/or record cards. Fact sheets or short answers questions could also be used.

**ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES** Corresponding to outcomes 1-3:

Outcome 1 For performance criteria (a), (c) and (d) observation of the candidate's practical activity using a checklist to cover the following points:

- 1.1 position
- 1.2 comfort
- 1.3 safety
- 1.4 hygienic practices
- 1.5 cleansing of hands
- 1.6 removal of existing enamel.

For performance criterion (b) written evidence produced by one extended response in the form of an essay or report, or a minimum of ten short answer questions relating to contra indications and referral procedures.

Satisfactory achievement of the outcome is based on all the performance criteria being met.

Outcome 2 Observation of the candidate's performance across the range of treatments using checklists to include each of the four performance criteria.

Satisfactory achievement of the outcome is based upon all the performance criteria being met.

Outcome 3 Practical and written evidence of the candidate's ability to give full and accurate home care advice to the client.

This may be evidenced by use of a checklist to cover each of the three performance criteria.

Satisfactory achievement of the outcome will be based on all the performance criteria being met.

**RECOGNITION** Many SQA NC units are recognised for entry/recruitment purposes. For up-to-date information see the SQA guide 'Recognised and Recommended Groupings'.

**REFERENCES**

1. Guidelines for Module Writers.
2. SQA's National Standards for Assessment and Verification.
3. For a fuller discussion on assessment issues, please refer to SQA's Guide to Assessment.
4. Procedures for special needs statements are set out in SQA's guide 'Students with Special Needs'.

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