

Unit 4222-335 Undertake physiological measurements (HSC 3052)

Level: 3
Credit value: 3
UAN: R/601/8662

Unit aim

This unit is aimed at health & social care staff involved in the taking and recording of physiological measurements as part of the individual's care plan.

Learning outcomes

There are **five** learning outcomes to this unit. The learner will be able to:

1. Understand relevant legislation, policy and good practice for undertaking physiological measurements
2. Understand the physiological states that can be measured
3. Be able to prepare to take physiological measurements
4. Be able to undertake physiological measurements
5. Be able to record and report results of physiological measurements

Guided learning hours

It is recommended that **23** hours should be allocated for this unit, although patterns of delivery are likely to vary.

Details of the relationship between the unit and relevant national standards

This unit is linked to CHS19.

Support of the unit by a sector or other appropriate body

This unit is endorsed by Skills for Care and Development.

Assessment

This unit must be assessed in accordance with Skills for Care and Development's QCF Assessment Principles.

Learning outcomes 2, 3, 4 and 5 must be assessed in a real work environment.

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Assessment Criteria

Outcome 1 Understand relevant legislation, policy and good practice for undertaking physiological measurements

The learner can:

1. describe current legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols affecting work practice.

Outcome 2 Understand the physiological states that can be measured

The learner can:

1. explain the principles of blood pressure to include:
 - blood pressure maintenance
 - differentiation between systolic and diastolic blood pressure
 - normal limits of blood pressure
 - conditions of high or low blood pressure
2. explain the principles of body temperature to include:
 - body temperature maintenance
 - normal body temperature
 - pyrexia, hyper-pyrexia and hypothermia
3. explain the principles of respiratory rates to include:
 - normal respiratory rates
 - factors affecting respiratory rates in ill and well individuals
4. explain the principles of pulse rates to include:
 - normal pulse rates limits
 - factors affecting pulse rates – raising or lowering
 - pulse sites on the body
 - the requirement for pulse oximetry measurements
 - analysis and implication of pulse oximetry findings
5. explain the principles of body mass index (BMI) in relation to weight/dietary control
6. explain the major factors that influence changes in physiological measurements
7. explain the importance of undertaking physiological measurements.

Outcome 3 Be able to prepare to take physiological measurements

The learner can:

1. explain to the individual what measurements will be undertaken and why these are done
2. reassure the individual during physiological measurements process
3. answer questions and deal with concerns during physiological measurements process
4. explain the help individuals may need before taking their physiological measurements
5. explain why it may be necessary to adjust an individual's clothing before undertaking physiological measurements
6. ensure all materials and equipment to be used are appropriately prepared
7. confirm the individual's identity and obtain **valid consent**.

Outcome 4 Be able to undertake physiological measurements

The learner can:

1. apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control
2. apply health and safety measures relevant to the procedure and environment
3. select and use appropriate equipment at the prescribed time and in the prescribed sequence to obtain an accurate measurement
4. monitor the condition of the individual throughout the measurement
5. respond to any significant changes in the individual's condition
6. follow the agreed process when unable to obtain or read a physiological measurement
7. identify any issues outside own responsibility and refer these to other colleagues.

Outcome 5 Be able to record and report results of physiological measurements

The learner can:

1. explain the necessity for recording physiological measurements
2. explain a few common conditions which require recording of physiological measurements
3. demonstrate the correct process for reporting measurements that fall outside the normal levels
4. record physiological measurements taken accurately using the correct documentation.

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Additional guidance

- **Valid consent** must be in line with agreed UK country definition.