

Acute Training Solutions

Naso-gastric Clinical Competency Framework Guideline

Trainee's information	
Name:	Job role:
Workplace	Date initial training completed

Competency statement

..... demonstrates clinical knowledge and skill in naso-gastric insertion and maintenance without assistance and/or direct supervision (level 3).

Performance criteria	Assessment method	Achieved Y/N	Date	Assessor / self assessed
The participant will be able to:				
1. Demonstrate the knowledge and understanding required to insert and maintain a nasogastric tube				
a) Discuss the rationale for nasogastric tube insertion including appropriate timing, reason and roles and responsibilities.	Questioning			
b) Discuss the legal and ethical implications for the insertion of a nasogastric tube.	Questioning			
c) Demonstrate knowledge of current NG policy and other relevant policies and guidelines, including Infection Control.	Questioning			
d) Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy and physiology in relation to nasogastric tube insertion.	Questioning			
2. Demonstrate the ability to insert a NG tube in accordance with policy and guidelines				
a) Ensure patient informed and consent to treatment given.	Observation/ Documentation			
b) Demonstrate correct preparation of equipment and patient environment.	Observation			
c) Follow guidelines to insert nasogastric tube.	Observation			

Performance criteria	Assessment method	Achieved Y/N	Date	Assessor / self assessed
The participant will be able to:				
d) Demonstrate procedure for checking correct placement of nasogastric tube following insertion.	Observation			
e) Demonstrate appropriate care of skin.	Observation			
f) Demonstrate correct documentation of procedure and use of positioning chart.	Observation			
g) Demonstrate knowledge of who to contact in the event of inability to confirm tube placement or other problems beyond competency.	Observation			
h) Demonstrate ability to maintain patency of tube for feeding and/or when medications are required.	Observation			
i) Demonstrate correct documentation and use of positioning chart.	Observation			
3. Demonstrate knowledge and skills in enteral feeding				
a) Discuss the indications for enteral feeding.	Questioning			
b) Identify range of method for nutritional support.	Questioning			
c) Describe how patients are screened and assessed for nutritional support.	Questioning			
d) Discuss the ethical and legal implications of nutritional support.	Questioning			
e) Describe three methods of delivery for feeding.	Questioning			
f) List the recommendations for giving feeding through a feeding tube.	Questioning			
g) Identify the main feeding routes for enteral feeding.	Questioning			



Competency statement

..... demonstrates clinical knowledge and skill in naso-gastric insertion and maintenance without assistance and/or direct supervision (level 3).

I confirm that I have I am confident and competent in naso-gastric tube insertion and maintenance.

Registered nurse Signature Status Date

I confirm that I have assessed the above named Registered Nurse and can verify that he/she demonstrates competency in naso-gastric tube insertion and maintenance.

Assessor Signature Status Date

Adapted for use from Southern Health NHS, according to advice from Patient Safety Alert NPSA/2012/RRR001: 'Harm from flushing nasogastric tubes before confirmation of placement' March 2012 .<http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/?EntryId45=133441> and should be read in conjunction with the previous alert NPSA/2011/PSA002: 'Reducing the harm caused by misplaced nasogastric feeding tubes in adults, children and infants' March 2011. <http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/type/alerts/?entryid45=129640>

Acute Training Solutions

Rating scale

Assessment in practice must be by a Registered Nurse who can demonstrate competence at or above level 4 Date all elements of Competency Tool completed to level 3.

	Level of achievement	Level
Novice	Cannot perform this activity satisfactorily to the level required in order to participate in the clinical environment.	0
	Can perform this activity but not without constant supervision and assistance.	1
	Can perform this activity with a basic understanding of theory and practice principles, but requires some supervision and assistance.	2
Competent Practitioner	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision.	3
	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice. At this level competence will have been maintained for at least 6 months and/or is used frequently (2-3 times /week) The practitioner will demonstrate confidence and proficiency and show fluency and dexterity in practice. This is the minimum level required to be able to assess practitioners as competent.	4
	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice. At this level the practitioner will be able to adapt knowledge and skill to special/ novel situations where there maybe increased levels of complexity and/or risk.	5
Expert	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice. Demonstrate initiative and adaptability to special problem situations, and can lead others in performing this activity. At this level the practitioner is able to co-ordinate, lead and assess others who are assessing competence. Ideally they will have a teaching and /or mentor qualification.	6

Adapted from: Herman GD, Kenyon RJ (1987) Competency-Based Vocational Education. A Case Study, Shaftsbury, FEU, Blackmore Press, cited in Fearon, M. (1998) Assessment and measurement of competence in practice, Nursing Standard 12(22), pp43-47.