



**Australian Government**

# **HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management**

**Release: 3**

## HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management

### Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 3	Supersedes and is equivalent to Release 2 HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 2	Supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTENN006 Apply principles of wound management in the clinical environment.

### Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to apply contemporary wound management principles to the care of persons with various types of wounds. It involves working with the registered nurse within the multidisciplinary health care team to contribute to the assessment, treatment and ongoing management of wounds.

This unit applies to enrolled nursing work carried out in consultation and collaboration with registered nurses, and under supervisory arrangements aligned to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) regulatory authority legislative requirements.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian Standards and industry codes of practice.

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

### Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

### Competency Field

Enrolled Nursing

## Unit Sector

### Elements and Performance Criteria

#### ELEMENTS

#### PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

*Elements describe the essential outcomes*

*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare for wound care management.</li> </ol>                                    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. Use infection control principles to minimise cross-infection during nursing assessment and implementation of wound management plans.</li> <li>1.2. Interpret wound management plan relating to wound care including dressing type and frequency of intervention.</li> <li>1.3. Identify stage of wound healing and determine wound care product.</li> </ol>   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Contribute to development and implementation of a wound plan of care.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. Apply findings from physical health status and wound pain assessment to implement wound care.</li> <li>2.2. Apply requirements of wound healing physiology and aetiology to the wound care plan.</li> <li>2.3. Identify wound management products and techniques for each phase of wound healing.</li> <li>2.4. Contribute to an individual wound management plan in consultation with the registered nurse.</li> <li>2.5. Apply requirements of wound classification in wound care planning.</li> <li>2.6. Document wound management plan for intervention and assessment.</li> <li>2.7. Implement contemporary wound management strategies to manage the person's wounds.</li> <li>2.8. Apply requirements of wound healing phase of haemostasis.</li> <li>2.9. Apply requirements of preventative wound care strategies to develop and implement the wound care plan.</li> <li>2.10. Apply contemporary assessment techniques to implement wound care strategies, in accordance with national standards and organisational policies and procedures.</li> <li>2.11. Access and prepare wound dressing products as required in the wound management plan for the identified phase of wound healing.</li> <li>2.12. Dispose of used articles including hazardous waste according to organisational policies and procedures.</li> <li>2.13. Make the person comfortable and complete required wound management documentation.</li> </ol> |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Assess and</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1. Assist assessment of the wound using medical terminology.</li> </ol>  |

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| document wound and wound care plan.                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.2. Apply requirements of the physiological and biochemical processes associated with normal wound healing when assessing wounds.</li> <li>3.3. Identify factors that impact on wound healing including psychosocial impact of a wound.</li> <li>3.4. Identify common problems and complications of wounds.</li> <li>3.5. Document the wound care plan.</li> <li>3.6. Apply universal precautions and infection control principles to the wound care plan.</li> </ul>   |
| 4. Apply wound management strategies to wounds.      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1. Apply requirements of wound complexity and the pathological processes of wound healing for wounds.</li> <li>4.2. Identify common problems and complications of wounds.</li> <li>4.3. Adhere to aseptic technique in the application of wound care.</li> <li>4.4. Adhere to aseptic technique to remove wound sutures, surgical clips and to shorten and remove wound drains.</li> <li>4.5. Participate in the development, review and assessment of individualised wound plans.</li> </ul>  |
| 5. Assist in evaluating outcomes of nursing actions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.1. Involve person and carer in assessment process.</li> <li>5.2. Monitor responses to wound management strategies, and progress towards planned wound management goals.</li> <li>5.3. Assess, document and communicate progress of wound healing and wound care strategy outcomes using contemporary wound management terminology.</li> <li>5.4. Assist in assessing wound management strategies and products used.</li> <li>5.5. Communicate assessment findings for modified and alternative wound management strategies, procedures and goals for the person.</li> <li>5.6. Work within a cost-effective framework for wound management.</li> <li>5.7. Identify, plan and apply health education and promotion strategies to wound management.</li> </ul> |

## Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

## Unit Mapping Information

HLTENN039 Apply principles of wound management supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTENN006 Apply principles of wound management in the clinical environment.

## **Links**

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>