Undertake quality performance checks within healthcare activities



Overview

This standard is applicable for a wide range of quality performance tests, also termed quality control, to ensure quality is controlled and maintained in a wide range of environments. It covers checking that systems, equipment and procedures continue to be accurate, standardised and safe to use.

It has a broad range and relates to the quality performance /quality control checks that contribute to quality assurance and quality management programmes within healthcare activities.

This standard may be used to perform quality checks on materials, specimens, equipment, products, medical devices and associated systems.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work within your level of competence, responsibility and accountability
- P2 select the relevant quality control tests for your work activity
- P3 carry out the quality performance testing at the appropriate frequency and time according to the local policies, protocols and guidelines
- P4 where appropriate, take action to respond to an unexpected situation or problem to maintain quality performance
- P5 compare and check that the quality test outcomes meet the expected performance results and /or conform to specification and relevant standards
- P6 identify and report details of conformance, non-conformance and variances according to approved procedures
- P7 in the event of non-compliance and variances, identify factors that may have influenced the results and seek advice if this is outside your level of responsibility
- P8 inform relevant individuals when quality performance tests demonstrate non compliance or variances
- P9 maintain full, accurate and legible records of the quality performance checks in line with current legislation, guidelines, local policies and protocols

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your own level of competence, authority and specialist knowledge base
- K2 the principles and policies of quality assurance and quality performance procedures and their relevance within your work practice
- K3 the range and types of quality tests required to establish safe, consistent and expected operation relevant to your work activities
- K4 the expected frequency of testing and expected performance outcomes for the quality testing within your work activities
- K5 the range of factors, limitations and critical factors that may lead to inaccurate results and the appropriate remedial actions
- K6 the importance of and consequences of poor results within your work practice
- K7 the type, range and level of detail required for the quality recording within your work practice
- K8 the reporting mechanisms for conformance, non-conformance and variances
- K9 the actions required when quality results are below accepted performance limits within your level of responsibility
- K10 why it is important to complete all necessary documentation accurately in the required format, in a timely manner and store in the correct location
- K11 the current national legislation, guidelines, local policies and protocols which affect your work practice
- K12 the policies and guidance that clarify your scope of practice, accountabilities and the working relationship between yourself and others

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: Core 5 Quality

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