

SFHHCS5

Investigate the structure function or performance of an organ or physiological system



Overview

This standard relates to the performance of a range of investigations where the individual is central to the test procedure to be conducted. This competence covers the appropriate selection of the investigations to answer the clinical question. The actual range of investigations undertaken will be dependent upon the context in which individuals work. Where life support and/or pharmaceuticals or other agents are required within the procedures covered by this competence, individuals will need to use the appropriate related standards.

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

SFHHCS5

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work within your level of competence, responsibility and accountability
- P2 confirm individuals identity, reason for referral and authorisation for the intervention
- P3 communicate effectively in the appropriate medium to meet the individuals needs and preferences
- P4 check the proposed investigations are appropriate to the individual's condition
- P5 apply health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and personal protective equipment appropriate to the procedure and clinical condition
- P6 identify any special needs which may affect performance or influence results and record any contra-indications, risks, and possible adverse effects of the proposed investigation in the individual's records
- P7 liaise with the requester and/ or colleagues to rectify any deficiencies, discrepancies or anomalies with the information available and where alternative arrangements are required to meet special needs
- P8 safeguard the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout the investigation
- P9 provide the necessary level of support and reassurance throughout the investigation
- P10 select the appropriate investigations and quality check the operational parameters of any required equipment, resources and associated systems
- P11 where indicated in the protocol, administer any prescribed drugs or other agents and confirm the intended or any adverse effects
- P12 select appropriate measurement parameters relevant to the individual's age, abilities and level of co-operation
- P13 conduct investigation in accordance with standard protocols
- P14 take measurements in correct sequence and in line with relevant protocols and use emerging data to optimise results to ensure the safety of the individual in answering the clinical question
- P15 monitor the individual throughout and identify any unusual reactions and alert appropriate staff and ensure it is documented in the individuals record
- P16 check the results for normal and abnormal physiological responses, identifying deviations and possible causal factors
- P17 check for any significant changes in the individuals health status and take prompt and relevant corrective action
- P18 accurately document results and any difficulties or influencing factors encountered during the investigation
- P19 confirm completion of investigation with individual and/or relevant others

SFHHCS5

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and explain the next steps

- P20 provide complete, accurate and legible results to relevant personnel within the defined time scales
- P21 maintain full, accurate and legible records of information from the investigations and store in the correct location in line with current legislation, guidelines local policies and protocols

SFHHCS5

Investigate the structure function or performance of an organ or physiological system

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your own level of competence, authority and specialist knowledge base related to performing investigations on individuals within your work practice
- K2 why it is important to confirm patient identity, authorisation for the procedure and the implications of not doing so
- K3 the need to establish the current medical status and current medications, their effects on physiological function and their relevance to the investigation
- K4 the principles of anatomy and physiology relevant to your work practice
- K5 the range of clinical conditions and their aetiology, the range of abnormalities and pathologies associated with the investigation
- K6 the range of factors affecting the suitability of individuals for investigation, relevant contra-indications, potential risks and complications
- K7 the range of health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and personal protective equipment, their importance and their application within the procedure and the clinical condition of the individual
- K8 the importance of risk analysis, risk assessments and how to access these within your work practice
- K9 the type and range of investigations available, their application, limitations and contra-indications
- K10 how to select the required type and number of investigations to generate answers to clinical question and accommodate any influencing factors of individuals condition
- K11 how and where to obtain relevant information to support decisions regarding the investigation
- K12 why it is important to check the individual has fulfilled any pre-procedural
- K13 how to communicate effectively in the appropriate medium to meet the individual needs and preferences
- K14 the importance of explaining the likely side effects, risks and possible adverse effects of the investigation to the individual and relevant others
- K15 the importance of adhering to the protocols and procedures relevant to investigation
- K16 where indicated in the protocol, how to administer any prescribed drugs or other agents and their associated potential risks and where to seek assistance if this is outside your level of responsibility
- K17 the range of relevant equipment, their optimal performance and quality performance checks
- K18 the importance of health and safety and infection prevention measures relevant to the investigation
- K19 the type and range of measurements associated with the investigation and their correct sequence

SFHHCS5

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- K20 the type and quality of data expected from the investigation and the actions required when these are outside normal or expected parameters
- K21 the importance of monitoring the individual and how to evaluate performance and any changes to health status throughout the procedure
- K22 how to recognise the clinical warning signs shown by individuals requiring assistance in life support measures and how to access assistance
- K23 the importance of disclosure and confidentiality requirements in respect of medical and the individual's information
- K24 the current national legislation, guidelines, local policies and protocols which affect your work practice
- K25 the policies and guidance that clarify your scope of practice, accountabilities and the working relationship between yourself and others

SFHHCS5

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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: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

SFHHCS5

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Suite Healthcare Science

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