SFHRT20
Provide technical assistance with the fitting of non-routine custom made devices

Overview

This standard focuses on the contribution that rehabilitation technicians make to the fitting of custom made devices by providing specialist technical advice to qualified practitioners (prosthetists, orthotists and seating clinicians) on realistic and achievable alterations and improvements to custom made devices. The standard is designed to cover those situations where a qualified practitioner seeks specialist advice from those skilled in manufacturing custom made devices. This may occur when users present complicated design problems (e.g. due to aesthetics, function or security), where a non-standard device is required, or where there are different options for meeting the service users' needs and the qualified practitioner needs advice on those that are likely to be most effective. The accountability for the overall decision making and prescription remains with the qualified practitioner. The rehabilitation technician is responsible for the quality of the information and advice they provide to the qualified practitioner. The qualified practitioner will always be in attendance during this process. 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 agree your role in fitting the custom made device with the relevant person(s)
- P2 obtain sufficient and appropriate background information prior to interacting with the relevant person(s)
- P3 interact with the relevant person(s) in ways which:
  - P3.1 are appropriate to the person(s) concerned
  - P3.2 are designed to encourage confidence in you
  - P3.3 respect the service user's privacy and dignity
  - P3.4 are consistent with your role and relevant legislation and practice guidelines
- P4 liaise with the relevant person(s) to see and receive feedback on the fit of the device
- P5 identify the nature of any fitting difficulties and problems with the device and any alterations and improvements that can be made
- P6 identify what ideally needs to be done with the device to meet the needs of the service user
- P7 balance the additional information gained throughout the fitting process and advise on the shape, aesthetic appearance and fittings that may be achieved
- P8 follow reasoning processes that are:
  - P8.1 capable of justification given the information available at the time
  - P8.2 likely to result in the optimum outcome for the service user
- P9 seek advice and support from an appropriate source when the needs of the service user and the complexity of the device are beyond your role and capability
- P10 confirm any alterations and improvements that need to be made with the relevant person(s) and the timescale involved

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 the reasons for maintaining records throughout the process and of clearly identifying the products during the manufacturing process

K2 the organisational procedures and requirements for the recording of information about incoming work, work in progress and work delivered, and the purpose of this

K3 quality audit systems, their purpose, nature and procedures, impact of the relevant regulatory body, currently the Medicine and Healthcare Regulatory Authority, on the recording of incoming work, the detailed design and manufacturing specification and the recording of materials and processes

K4 the principles of quality assurance, processes and procedures for quality assurance in your workplace

K5 the methods used for setting and calibrating equipment and of testing that this is correct

K6 the effects of modifying manufacturers' components and products to meet production/usage requirements on the physical properties of the components/products and the legal implications

K7 the relevant regulatory body, currently the Medicine and Healthcare Regulatory Authority, in monitoring the progress of devices through the production process

K8 health and safety at work legislation and related procedures and liability, principles of, and how to apply legislation and regulations

K9 the musculo-skeletal system

K10 anatomical terminology in relation to prosthetics/orthotics/special seating

K11 the anatomical planes and reference points of the body

K12 the roles and responsibilities of the interdisciplinary team

K13 ethical considerations in rehabilitation technical services

K14 prosthetics/orthotics/special seating care systems in the UK

K15 awareness of the following:

K15.1 service user examination

K15.2 casting

K15.3 bench alignment, fitting and delivery

K16 measurement

K17 cast rectification

K18 the pathological conditions giving rise to prosthetic/orthotic/special seating provision and the relevant terminology

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Additional Information

External links

This National Occupational Standard was developed by Skills for Health.

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

Dimension: Core 1 Communication

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