




Name _____



Job Title _____


Vital Signs (Physical Observations) Competency Statement

The participant can demonstrate clinical knowledge (registered professionals) and skill (all staff) in the safe preparation and use of equipment and the measurement and documentation of vital signs without direct supervision. Assessment of practice must be by a Registered Health Care Professional.

Competency Framework			
Competency Criteria	Assessment method	Comments	Competence achieved (Assessor) Sign and Date
The participant will be able to:			
1. Demonstrate knowledge of safe standards of resident care			
1a. Demonstrate understanding of the requirement for equipment to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean • Calibrated (all staff)	Discussion		
1b. Demonstrate understanding of the need to seek the resident's consent prior to measuring vital signs, including verbalising what information should be given (all staff)	Discussion		
2. Demonstrate the ability to perform vital signs monitoring (observations)			
2a. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to measure a resident's breathing (respiratory) rate, including: <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> i) Rate (all staff) ii) Depth (all staff) iii) measurement over 1 minute (all staff) iv) Knowledge and understanding of what conditions or events may raise or lower breathing rate (registered professionals) v) accurate documentation of breathing rate on a NEWS2 chart (all staff)	Discussion and observation		

<p>2b. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to measure a resident's oxygen saturations (pulse oximetry), including:</p> <p>i) Identifying potential errors and knowing how to resolve them (all staff)</p> <p>ii) Preparation of the resident (all staff)</p> <p>iii) selecting a suitable site for probe (all staff)</p> <p>iv) Understanding of when to use Scale 1 or Scale 2 on a NEWS2 chart (all staff)</p> <p>v) accurate documentation of oxygen saturations on a NEWS2 chart (all staff)</p>		<p>Discussion and observation</p>		
<p>2c. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to measure a resident's blood pressure, including:</p> <p>i) Knowledge of the normal blood pressure range (registered professionals)</p> <p>ii) Knowledge and understanding of what conditions or events may raise or lower blood pressure (registered professionals)</p> <p>iii) Knowledge and understanding of what conditions or practices may give an inaccurate reading of blood pressure (all staff)</p> <p>iv) correct selection of an appropriately sized BP cuff (all staff)</p> <p>positioning of the resident</p> <p>v) Competent use of automated BP machine (sphygmomanometer) (all staff)</p> <p>vi) Accurate documentation of diastolic, mean and systolic blood pressure on a NEWS2 chart (all staff)</p> <p>vii) Understanding of which measurement of BP is included in NEWS2 (all staff)</p>		<p>Discussion and observation</p>		

<p>2d. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to measure a resident's heart rate (pulse), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Understanding of normal pulse ranges (registered professionals) ii) Use of pulse oximeter device or BP machine to measure heart rate (all staff) iii) Ability to measure a radial pulse if required (all staff) iv) Understanding of what to do if the resident's heart rate is irregular (all staff) v) Accurate documentation of heart rate on a NEWS2 chart (all staff) 		<p>Discussion and observation</p>		
<p>2e. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to assess a resident's Level of Alertness including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The 5 states of alertness as measured by the ACPVU scale (all staff) ii) Describe the signs of someone who is alert (all staff) iii) Understand the difference between new onset or worsening confusion and existing chronic confusion and how this might be assessed (all staff) iv) Describe how to safely and appropriately assess response to pain and when this would be done (all staff) v) Accurate documentation of level of alertness on a NEWS2 chart (all staff) 		<p>Discussion and observation</p>		

<p>2f. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to measure a resident's temperature , including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Knowledge of normal temperature range (registered professionals) ii) identify sites for temperature measurement (all staff) iii) demonstrate correct use of the thermometer (all staff) iii) Demonstrate use of single use covers (all staff) iv) Accurate documentation of temperature on a NEWS2 chart (all staff) 		<p>Discussion and observation</p>		
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Date Vital Signs (Physical Observations) Competency Completed _____

Number of observations of vital signs measurement (for local determination but suggested minimum of three successful observations) _____

Observation 1 Date_____

Assessor _____

Signature_____

Observation 2 Date_____

Assessor _____

Signature_____

Observation 3 Date_____

Assessor _____

Signature_____

I can confirm that the above named individual has completed the NEWS 2 e-learning or Health Education England Sepsis modules and has retained evidence of completion.

Assessor _____ Signature_____ Status _____ Date _____

I can confirm that the above named individual has completed the Vital Signs (Physical Observations) competency document and is able to perform clinical observations to a satisfactory standard without supervision.

Assessor _____ Signature_____ Status _____ Date _____

