

UNIT CODE	HLTAHA036
UNIT TITLE	Assist and support the use of augmentative and alternative communication systems
APPLICATION	<p>This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to an allied health professional. Work includes supporting persons who use communication systems, including the preparation of resources.</p> <p>This unit applies to allied health assistants and should be performed under the direct, indirect or remote supervision and delegation of an Allied Health Professional (AHP).</p> <p>The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Allied Health Assistant Framework, Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian standards and industry codes of practice.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication</p>
PREREQUISITE UNIT	Nil
COMPETENCY FIELD	Allied Health
UNIT SECTOR	Health

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Receive delegation and gather information.	1.1 Obtain written or verbal delegation for an allied health activity from the allied health professional. 1.2 Obtain information from speech pathologist or delegating allied health professional, according to organisational policy and procedures. 1.3 Discuss and confirm with delegating speech pathologist treatment requirements.
2. Prepare augmentative and alternative communication systems development.	2.1 Identify any treatment requirements outside scope of role and discuss with delegated speech pathologist. 2.2 Determine persons availability in accordance with organisation procedures. 2.3 Determine need for interpreter.

3. Assist in the development of augmentative and alternative communication systems.	<p>3.1 Confirm the nature of the communication system and implications for resource requirements with delegating speech pathologist.</p> <p>3.2 Confirm person's previous and current abilities with the delegating speech pathologist to inform choice and presentation of resources.</p> <p>3.3 Select and confirm suitability of resources, communication system, type of therapy and specified communication goals as delegated by the speech pathologist.</p> <p>3.4 Identify existing usable resources, as delegated by the speech pathologist.</p> <p>3.5 Confirm and make resources ensuring they comply with health and safety requirements as delegated by speech pathologist.</p>
4. Support the use of augmentative and alternative communication systems.	<p>4.1 Identify the type of communication system and availability of power supply to be used by the person prior to making contact.</p> <p>4.2 Prepare resources and equipment to facilitate communication via the communication system.</p> <p>4.3 Set out equipment and furniture and assist the person to ensure optimum access to the communication system, in line with organisational health and safety procedures and delegation from speech pathologist.</p> <p>4.4 Communicate with person using different modes of communication.</p>
5. Comply with supervisory requirements.	<p>5.1 Consult with delegating speech pathologist when additional information is required.</p> <p>5.2 Seek assistance when person presents with needs or signs outside limits of own scope of role, skills or knowledge.</p> <p>5.3 Report persons difficulties to the delegating speech pathologist before continuing the program.</p> <p>5.4 Participate in supervision processes with the delegating speech pathologist in accordance with organisational procedures.</p>
6. Clean and store equipment.	<p>6.1 Clean materials and equipment in accordance with manufacturers requirements.</p> <p>6.2 Store material and equipment in accordance with manufacturers requirements and organisation procedures.</p> <p>6.3 Report equipment faults according to organisational procedures.</p>
7. Document persons information.	<p>7.1 Document information relating to the rehabilitation program in line with organisational requirements.</p> <p>7.2 Provide regular feedback to the delegating speech pathologist.</p> <p>7.3 Use professional terminology to document symptomatic expression of identified problems related to the rehabilitation program.</p>

FOUNDATION SKILLS	
<i>Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.</i>	
SKILLS	DESCRIPTION

Reading skills to:	■
Writing skills to:	■
Oral communication skills to:	■
Numeracy skills to:	■
Learning skills to:	■
Problem-solving skills to:	■
Initiative and enterprise skills to:	■
Teamwork skills to:	■
Planning and organising skills to:	■
Self-management skills to:	■
Technology skills to:	■

UNIT MAPPING INFORMATION	No equivalent unit.
LINKS	Companion Volume Implementation Guide

TITLE	Assessment Requirements for HLTAHA036 Assist and support the use of augmentative and alternative communication systems
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PERFORMANCE EVIDENCE	<p>Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ provide therapeutic guidance for three people in the use of communication systems under the delegation of a speech pathologist, one in simulation and two in the workplace, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ positioning the person and managing the environment for use of a communication system ○ preparing communication systems to meet individual needs and delegating speech pathologist directions ■ perform the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 120 hours of work.
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KNOWLEDGE EVIDENCE	<p>Demonstrate the knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ communication needs of persons with congenital, developmental, acquired and progressive disabilities ■ augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems and strategies ■ selection and application of AAC devices for people with complex communication needs ■ legal and ethical considerations relevant to allied health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ duty of care ○ discrimination ○ informed consent ■ procedures for escalation of risks ■ allied health core competencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ person-centred care ○ individual therapy ○ group therapy ○ communication of person information ○ equipment and environment ■ organisational policies and procedures in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ confidentiality ○ documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● reporting ● recording patient data ● written communication to Allied Health Professional ○ professional behaviour and presentation ○ infection control practices ○ occupational health and safety ○ manual handling ○ supervisory, delegation ■ principles of empowering the older person ■ principles of empowering people living with disability or serious mental illness ■ changes related to ageing ■ concepts of holistic health and wellbeing ■ social determinants of health. ■ concepts of the medical model, the biopsychosocial models and the human rights based approach of allied health interventions ■ principles of choice and control ■ concept of reablement.
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ASSESSMENT CONDITIONS	<p>Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment. All aspects of the performance evidence must have been demonstrated using simulation prior to being demonstrated in the workplace.</p> <p>Assessment must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ access to suitable facilities, equipment and resources that reflect real working conditions and model industry operating conditions and contingencies■ access to individualised plans and any relevant equipment outlined in the plan■ access to organisational policies and procedures■ opportunities for engagement with real people accessing allied health services. <p>Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors and be an allied health assistant with a minimum of three years of professional experience in allied health services or a recognised Allied Health Professional.</p>
LINKS	Companion Volume Implementation Guide