Title | Describe contributors to, and the impact of, MHA issues on human development and support a person accessing MHA services
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Level | 4
Credits | 8

**Purpose**
This unit standard is designed for mental health and/or addiction support workers.

People credited with this unit standard are able to describe a mental health issue, an addiction issue and their likely contributors within a particular life stage and context; as well as the impacts of a mental health issue and an addiction issue on human development within a particular life stage and context.

They are also able to support a person accessing mental health and/or addiction services and, when available, their whānau, for an agreed period.

**Classification**
Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Mental Health and Addiction Support

**Available grade**
Achieved

**Guidance information**

1. Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes:
   - Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989;
   - Criminal Procedure Act 2011;
   - Criminal Procedure (Mentally Impaired Persons) Act 2003;
   - Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights) Regulations 1996;
   - Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003;
   - Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003;
   - Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992;
   - Misuse of Drugs Act 1975;
   - Oranga Tamariki Act 1989;
   - Privacy Act 1993;
   - Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988;
   - Substance Addiction (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment Act) 2017;
   - Vulnerable Children Act 2014.

2. New Zealand Standards relevant to this unit standard include:
   - NZS 8134.0:2008 Health and disability services Standards – Health and disability services (general) Standard;
   - NZS 8134.1:2008 Health and disability services Standards – Health and disability services (core) Standards;
• NZS 8134.2:2008 Health and disability services Standards – Health and disability services (restraint minimisation and safe practice) Standards;  
• NZS 8134.3:2008 Health and disability services Standards – Health and disability services (infection prevention and control) Standards.  
• New Zealand Standards are available from http://www.standards.co.nz.

3 References

4 Mental health, recovery and wellbeing are more than the absence of mental health and addiction issues. Concepts of wellbeing and recovery are different for every person and refer to living a satisfying, hopeful and meaningful life as each person defines that for themselves, even when there are ongoing mental health and/or addiction issues. (Adapted from the Monitoring and Advocacy report of the Mental Health Commissioner, Auckland).

5 Support should aim to: be mana enhancing and maintain, or restore, a person’s sense of tino-rangatiratanga (self-determination and independence) and/or
interdependence; utilise the person’s existing strengths; uphold the person’s human rights; and – where possible – utilise the resources of the local community.

6 Support provided for people accessing MHA services may include natural supports, which refers to any assistance, relationships, or interactions provided by family and/or whānau, friends, peers, co-workers, or community volunteers.

7 Practice must reflect appropriate values, processes, and protocols in relation to working with Māori and Pacific peoples and/or people from other cultures, in a range of settings and environments.

8 All practice and support must reflect the values, attitudes and the performance indicators of the seven Real Skills of Let’s get real. This includes both the Essential and Enhanced levels of the seven Real Skills.

9 This unit standard cannot be assessed against in a simulated environment. It is required that people seeking credit for this unit standard demonstrate competence and are assessed in the workplace: through paid or unpaid employment, or in placements in a service provider workplace negotiated by an education provider.

10 The assessor will evaluate the support that is given during a prescribed period within the life stage of the person accessing mental health and/or addiction services in terms of its applicability and effectiveness in promoting the wellbeing of the person and achieving the goals set out in his or her wellbeing support plan.

11 Definitions

• **Addiction** is a generic term that includes substance (alcohol and other drugs, including tobacco) use disorders and gambling disorders. (Definition from Matua Rakī – *A Guide to the Addiction Treatment Sector in Aotearoa New Zealand*).

• The **agreed period** for assessment against outcome 2 will be set in agreement with the service provider, and will generally be around 3 months, even if the period that a person accessing services is longer.

• **Context** refers to the combination of aspects relating to the background and situation of the person accessing mental health and or addiction services, including but not limited to their: mental health and/or addiction issue(s), location, socio-economic status, living arrangements, employment status, family/whānau arrangements, culture/ethnicity, religious beliefs, education.

• **Human development** refers to: physical development, social development, psychological development, cognitive development, emotional development, cultural development, spiritual development, acculturation.

• **Life stages** refers to the following: infant – a person aged 0 to 4 years; child – a person aged 4 to 12 years; adolescent – a person aged 13 to 18 years; adult – a person aged 19 to 64 years; older person – a person aged 65 years or over.

• **MHA**, as used in the title of this unit standard, is an abbreviation for *mental health and/or addiction*.

• **Organisation’s policies and procedures** are the policies and procedures of the employing organisation of the candidate and include ethical codes, standards, and other organisational requirements.

• **Wellbeing** encompasses all dimensions of health: tinana (physical), hinengaro (mental and emotional), whānau (social), and wairua (spiritual) (*Let’s get real*, glossary). In its broadest sense wellbeing refers to a person’s level of good
physical and mental health, and the extent to which they are enabled to live healthy and flourishing lives.

### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Describe a mental health issue and its likely contributors within a particular life stage and context.

**Range** contributors to the mental health issue may include but are not limited to – trauma, physical health conditions, environment, psycho-social factors.

**Performance criteria**

1.1 The mental health issue and its likely contributors are described in terms of the mental health issue’s prevalence within a particular life stage and context.

**Range** evidence is required for the prevalence of one mental health issue for a minimum of two life stages; evidence must include reference to particular contexts.

#### Outcome 2

Describe an addiction issue and its likely contributors within a particular life stage and context.

**Range** contributors to the addiction issue may include but are not limited to – trauma, physical health conditions, environment, psycho-social factors.

**Performance criteria**

2.1 The addiction issue and its likely contributors are described in terms of the addiction issue’s prevalence within a particular life stage and context.

**Range** evidence is required for the prevalence of one addiction issue for a minimum of two life stages; evidence must include reference to particular contexts.

#### Outcome 3

Describe the impacts of a mental health issue on human development within a particular life stage and context.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 The mental health issue is described in terms of the impact on a person accessing mental health and/or addiction services, services and their natural supports, within a particular life stage and context.

**Range** evidence is required of two impacts of the mental health issue for each of two individuals accessing mental health and/or addiction services, who are at different life stages and/or contexts.
Outcomes 4

Describe the impacts of an addiction issue on human development within a particular life stage and context.

Performance criteria

4.1 The addiction issue is described in terms of the impact on a person accessing mental health and/or addiction services, and their natural supports, within a particular life stage and context.

Range evidence is required of two impacts of the addiction issue for each of two individuals accessing mental health and/or addiction services, who are at different life stages and/or contexts.

Outcome 5

Support a person accessing mental health and/or addiction services and, when available, their whānau, for an agreed period.

Performance criteria

5.1 Support is provided with consideration to the person’s life stage and in accordance with the aims and objectives of the person’s wellbeing support plan, cultural context, own scope, and the organisation’s policies and procedures.

Range evidence is required for one person accessing mental health and/or addiction services.

Planned review date 31 December 2023

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

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Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0024

This CMR can be accessed at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Careerforce info@careerforce.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.