

Title	Support people with addiction issues using screening tools and brief interventions		
Level	4	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe addiction screening tools and support people with addiction issues to use a screening tool, and support people with addiction issues using brief interventions.
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Classification	Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Mental Health and Addiction Support
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
 - Crimes Act 1961;
 - 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 (Children's and Young People's Well-being Act 1989);
 - Privacy Act 1993;
 - Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988;
 - Substance Addiction (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 2017.

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

- 3 References:
 - American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Washington DC: American Psychiatric Association. Available at: <https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/dsm/>.

- Babor, T.F., & Higgins-Biddle, J.C. (2001). *Brief Intervention for Hazardous and Harmful Drinking (AUDIT): A Manual for Use in Primary Care*. Geneva: World Health Organization. Available at: https://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/audit_sbi/en/.
- Le Va, Pasifika within Te Pou, The National Centre of Mental Health Research, Information and Workplace Development. (2009). *Real Skills plus Seitapu – Working with Pacific Peoples*. Auckland: Le Va. Available at: <https://www.leva.co.nz/resources/lets-get-real---real-skills-plus-seitapu---working-with-pacific-peoples-le-va>.
- Mental Health Commission – Te Kaitātaki Oranga; Ministry of Health. (1998). *Guidelines for Clinical Risk Assessment and Management in Mental Health Services*. Wellington: Ministry of Health in partnership with the Health Funding Authority. Available at: [https://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/2FE380C25ED2F1B34C25668600741EBA/\\$file/mentalra.pdf](https://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/2FE380C25ED2F1B34C25668600741EBA/$file/mentalra.pdf).
- Te Pou o te Whakaaro Nui & Ministry of Health. (2018). *Let's get real: Real Skills for people and whānau with mental health and addiction needs*. Auckland: Te Pou o te Whakaaro Nui. Available at: <https://www.tepou.co.nz/initiatives/lets-get-real/107>.
- The Werry Centre. (2014). *Real Skills Plus ICAMH/AOD: A competency framework for the infant, child and youth mental health and alcohol and other drug workforce*. Auckland: The Werry Centre for Child & Adolescent Mental Health Workforce Development. Available at: <https://www.werryworkforce.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Real%20Skills%20Plus%20Dec%202014%20170315.pdf>.
- Todd, F.C. (2010). *Te Ariari o te Oranga: The assessment and management of people with co-existing mental health and substance use problems*. Wellington: Ministry of Health. Available at: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/te-ariari-o-te-orang-teariari-13-04-10.pdf>.

4 Definitions:

- “*Addiction* is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual’s life experiences. People with addiction use substances or engage in behaviours that become compulsive and often continue despite harmful consequences.” ASAM (2019). Available at: https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/revised-def-of-addiction-final.pdf?sfvrsn=a8aa4fc2_2.
- *Brief interventions* are short sessions aimed at supporting a person who may be unaware of an addiction issue, rather than an individual who has actively sought help for an addiction issue. They aim to identify an actual or potential problem and generate awareness of the need for change.
- *Natural supports* refer to any assistance, relationships, or interactions provided to a mental health and addiction service user by family/whānau, friends, peers, co-workers, or community volunteers. In a specifically Māori context, natural supports may include but are not limited to: kaumātua, kuia, tohunga, whānau, iwi, and hapū.
- *People accessing addiction services* may also be known as consumers, clients, patients, tūroro, or tangata whai ora in particular contexts and settings.

- *Organisational policies and procedures* are the policies and procedures of the employing organisation of the candidate and include ethical codes, standards, and other organisational requirements.
 - *Screening tools* include but are not limited to – the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT – adult), Alcohol Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST), the Substances and Choices Scale (SACS – youth), Early Intervention Gambling Health Test (EIGHT) and Lie/Bet.
- 5 Support should aim to: maintain, improve, or restore a person’s independence and/or interdependence; utilise the person’s existing strengths; and, where possible, utilise the resources of the local community.
- 6 This unit standard cannot be assessed against in a simulated environment. For assessment, candidates must demonstrate competence in the workplace through paid or unpaid employment, or in placements in a service provider workplace negotiated by an education provider.
- 7 Support provided for people accessing addiction services may include natural supports.
- 8 The candidate’s 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.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe addiction screening tools and support people with addiction issues to use a screening tool.

Range evidence is required for one screening tool that is age-appropriate for adults and one screening tool that is age-appropriate for youth.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Screening tools are described in terms of their utility to elicit information to support people with potential addiction issues.
- 1.2 People with potential addiction issues are supported to use a screening tool that is approved by the candidate’s organisation.
- Range support may include but is not limited to – supplying a screening tool to the person, explaining instructions, answering questions within scope of practice, providing referral pathways.

Outcome 2

Support people with addiction issues using brief interventions.

Range support may include but is not limited to – explaining purpose of brief intervention to the person, answering questions within scope of practice, providing referral pathways, administering brief intervention; evidence is required of support for two people.

Performance criteria

2.1 Support for people with brief interventions is focused on identifying actual or potential addiction issues and supporting change behaviours.

2.2 Brief interventions are used to identify possible options for people.

Range possible options may include but are not limited to – motivational interviewing, referral.

2.3 Support is carried out within the boundaries of the candidate's role and in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Planned review date	31 December 2024
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	21 July 2011	31 December 2021
Revision	2	17 May 2012	31 December 2021
Review	3	28 May 2020	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0024
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This CMR can be accessed at <https://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.