

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of identifying at-risk behaviours in prisoners		
Level	3	Credits	4

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for people working as officers in a prison environment and covers knowledge of identifying at-risk behaviours in prisoners.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identifying suicidal or self-harm behaviour in prisoners; – indications of mental instability in a prisoner; – signs and symptoms of intoxication in a prisoner; and – appropriate responses and/or actions required to manage at-risk prisoners.
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Classification	Offender Management > Prisoner Management
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 This unit standard is intended for workplace assessment.
- 2 Legislation and standards relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
 - Corrections Act 2004;
 - Corrections Regulations 2005;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Operational manual and code of conduct relating to the prison;
 - and any subsequent amendments or replacements.
- 3 Definitions
 - Illicit drugs* – drugs forbidden by law. Includes but is not limited to – cannabis, methamphetamine.
 - Licit drugs* – may include restricted drugs and include medication.
 - NARA* – new arrival risk assessments.
 - Organisational policies and procedures* refer to the formal policies and procedures for a specific prison site and its activities, and which are consistent with its lead organisation.
 - Other personnel/individuals* – may include but are not limited to managers, other officers, medical staff, cultural advisors, chaplains.
 - Prison environment* – any area, within a prison site or external to a prison site where prisoners are held, such as a cell block, within the prison perimeter, on a prison farm, or in a vehicle transporting prisoners.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of identifying suicidal or self-harm behaviour in prisoners.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe factors that can influence a prisoner to attempt suicide or self-harm.

Range factors may include but are not limited to – drug and alcohol withdrawal, new sentences, first time prisoner, type of offence, parole, age, misconduct charges, medical conditions, family or other external news or information received; evidence of four is required.

1.2 Describe indications that a prisoner may be at risk of suicide or self-harm.

Range indications may include but are not limited to – behavioural changes, emotional signs of distress, information from other prisoners, giving possessions away, history, alerts, staff observations, information from other individuals; evidence of four is required.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of indications of mental instability in a prisoner.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe factors that may influence mental instability in a prisoner.

2.2 Describe behavioural indications that a prisoner may be mentally unstable.

2.3 Describe factors influencing a prisoner's past offending and behaviour in terms of how they may be linked to mental instability.

Range prisoner's background and personal history, psychological factors, criminal factors, social factors.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of signs and symptoms of intoxication in a prisoner.

Performance criteria

3.1 Describe symptoms of intoxication in a prisoner.

Range alcohol intoxication and two other types of intoxication; symptoms may include but are not limited to – slurred speech, red eyes, dilated pupils, ‘pinpoint’ pupils, extreme drowsiness, slowed responses, agitation, extreme aggressive behaviour.

Outcome 4

Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate responses and/or actions required to manage at-risk prisoners.

Range suicide risk, mental instability, alcohol and/or illicit drug intoxication, possession of excessive amounts of licit drugs.

Performance criteria

4.1 Describe responses to a prisoner exhibiting at-risk behaviour.

Range responses are in terms of preservation of life as main consideration.

4.2 Identify other personnel and/or individuals who may need to be consulted and/or involved in terms of managing at-risk prisoners, in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

4.3 Describe documentation and reporting requirements in terms of managing at-risk prisoners, in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Range documentation may include but is not limited to – NARA, incident reports, file notes.

Replacement information	This unit standard, unit standard 29065, and unit standard 29485 were replaced by unit standard 32778.
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This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	20 May 2011	31 December 2019
Review	2	15 September 2016	31 December 2024
Revision	3	25 July 2019	31 December 2024
Review	4	29 July 2021	31 December 2024
Rollover	5	28 April 2022	31 December 2024

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0121

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