

Title	Apply modalities in physiotherapy as a health assistant		
Level	4	Credits	6

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for people providing services in a health or wellbeing setting.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe the application of modalities in physiotherapy in a health or wellbeing setting; and apply modalities in physiotherapy as a health assistant.</p>
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Classification	Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Allied Health Assistance
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights) Regulations 1996 (the Code of Rights);
Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001;
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
Human Rights Act 1993;
Privacy Act 1993.
- 2 New Zealand Standards relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to
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 8134.3:2008 *Health and disability services Standards – Health and disability services (infection prevention and control) Standards*;
NZS 8158:2012 *Home and community support sector Standard*; available at <http://www.standards.co.nz/>.
- 3 Candidates' 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.

4 Definitions

Health professional – a person who is registered with an authority (which is appointed by or under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003) as a practitioner of a particular health profession to deliver health services in accordance with a defined scope of practice.

Health or wellbeing setting includes but is not limited to – the aged care, acute care, community support, disability, mental health, and social services sectors.

Modalities – any therapeutic method or agent, including standardised treatment programmes and physical agents, used to treat an injury, disability, or disorder; and/or to promote, maintain, or restore a person's physical and psychological wellbeing.

Organisational policies and procedures – policies, procedures and methodologies of an organisation. They include legislative and regulatory requirements which may apply across a company, a specific site, or a workplace. Requirements are documented in the company's health and safety plans, contract work programmes, quality assurance programmes, policies and procedural documents.

Person – a person accessing services. Other terms used for the person may include client, consumer, customer, patient, individual, resident, service user, tūroro or tangata whai ora.

Physical agents may include but are not limited to – thermal modalities (hot and cold) and use of customised standard splints or braces.

Standardised treatment programmes may include but are not limited to – Fitness and Mobility Exercise Program (FAME) or Graded Repetitive Arm Supplementary Programme (GRASP).

Thermal modalities – simple heating and cooling agents and techniques, such as heat/ice packs that are applied to a person in order to produce a measurable change in tissue temperature.

5 Evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be gathered in the workplace.

6 Assessment note

Evidence is required of the four modalities, including two thermal modalities (one hot and one cold) and one customised standard splint or brace.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the application of modalities in physiotherapy in a health or wellbeing setting.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Therapeutic modalities in physiotherapy are described in terms of their purpose and application.
- 1.2 The application of modalities in physiotherapy is described in terms of the contribution to a person's care.

- 1.3 Precautions that can be taken to reduce risks for people from the application of modalities in physiotherapy are described in terms of organisational policies and procedures.

Range evidence is required for one precaution for each of two risks.

Outcome 2

Apply modalities in physiotherapy as a health assistant.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Modalities used in physiotherapy are applied in accordance with the directives of a delegating health professional(s) and the boundaries of own role.
- 2.2 Precautions are taken to reduce risks to people when applying modalities in physiotherapy in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Planned review date	31 December 2021
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	17 June 2011	31 December 2012
Revision	2	19 April 2012	31 December 2017
Review	3	16 April 2015	N/A
Rollover and Revision	4	26 September 2019	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0024
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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.