

Title	Apply safe swallowing strategies in a health or wellbeing setting		
Level	3	Credits	5

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 anatomy and physiology of dysphagia and its impact on people; describe safe swallowing strategies; and apply safe swallowing strategies, in a health or wellbeing setting.</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 and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are 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 include but are 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
Boundaries of own role includes but is not limited to – delegation and directives of a health professional, limits of own ability and training and ethical responsibilities.
Dysphagia – the medical term for any difficulty or discomfort that is experienced when swallowing.

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

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

5 Resources

Healthline, *What causes difficulty in swallowing? 12 possible conditions*, available at <https://www.healthline.com/health/difficulty-in-swallowing>.

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

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the anatomy and physiology of dysphagia and its impact on people in a health or wellbeing setting.

Performance criteria

1.1 The anatomy and physiology of the normal human swallowing mechanism are described.

1.2 The anatomy and physiology of impaired swallowing mechanisms resulting in dysphagia are described.

1.3 Impairments in people resulting from dysphagia are described.

Range evidence is required for – physiological impairment, participatory impairment.

1.4 Precautions that should be taken to reduce risks for people with dysphagia are described.

Range evidence is required for two precautions.

Outcome 2

Describe safe swallowing strategies in a health or wellbeing setting.

Range evidence is required for three strategies.

Performance criteria

2.1 Safe swallowing strategies for people are described in terms of the boundaries of own role.

Outcome 3

Apply safe swallowing strategies in a health or wellbeing setting.

Range evidence is required for the application of three strategies.

Performance criteria

3.1 Safe swallowing strategies are applied in accordance with the boundaries of own role.

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 2017
Review	2	16 April 2015	N/A
Rollover and Revision	3	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.