

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of the management of patients with acute abdominal symptoms in an ambulance context		
Level	5	Credits	8

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended for people who are working in an ambulance context, and who are responsible for developing management plans for patients, making appropriate decisions, and who need to be able to do this independently.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – demonstrate knowledge of the structures and functions of the human abdominopelvic cavity, for an ambulance context; – demonstrate knowledge of common acute abdominal conditions and traumatic injury, their signs, symptoms, and differential diagnoses, for an ambulance context; and – develop a management plan for a patient with acute abdominal symptoms in an ambulance context.
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Classification	Emergency Services > Ambulance
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 29323, <i>Gather and record information to support patient assessment</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

1 Definitions

Ambulance context – situations where emergency care is delivered in a variety of out-of-hospital environments. Out-of-hospital environments refer to any situation in which people require medical assistance outside of a controlled medical environment, such as a medical centre. These out-of-hospital environments include situations both in and away from an ambulance vehicle.

Best practice – for the purposes of this standard, a clinical technique or methodology that has proven to be most effective at delivering a desired outcome and is actively promoted across the ambulance and/or emergency care sector.

Clinical procedures and guidelines – the written procedures particular to each ambulance service and endorsed by Ambulance New Zealand.

Standing orders – written instructions issued by a medical practitioner that authorise individuals engaged in the delivery of health services to supply and administer certain medicines without a prescription in circumstances specified in the instruction.

2 References

Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights) Regulations 1996;
and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

3 Range

Performance in relation to the outcomes in this unit standard is to comply with current clinical procedures and guidelines and/or standing orders and/or current best practice and be appropriate to the patient's condition.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the structures and functions of the human abdominopelvic cavity, for an ambulance context.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe the location and gross structure of the parts of the human abdominopelvic cavity according to their functions.

Range includes but is not limited to – aorta, appendix, bowel, pancreas, liver, spleen, kidneys, gall bladder, urinary bladder, stomach.

1.2 Describe functions of the digestive system according to physiological processes.

Range may include but is not limited to – digestion, waste removal.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of common acute abdominal conditions and traumatic injury, their signs, symptoms, and differential diagnoses, for an ambulance context.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe common acute abdominal conditions according to their pathophysiology.

Range includes but is not limited to – appendicitis, abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), bowel obstruction, gastroenteritis, gastrointestinal bleeding, renal or biliary stones.

2.2 Describe traumatic abdominopelvic injury according to the pathophysiology.

2.3 Describe signs and symptoms of common acute abdominal problems.

2.4 Describe differential diagnoses for common acute abdominal symptoms.

2.5 Describe differential diagnoses for non-abdominal conditions.

Outcome 3

Develop a management plan for a patient with acute abdominal symptoms in an ambulance context.

Range two plans, one for a medical condition, one for a traumatic injury.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Describe the general management steps for patients with acute abdominal symptoms.
- 3.2 Describe specific therapies used in the management of patients with acute abdominal symptoms.
- 3.3 Develop, explain, and justify a management plan for a patient with acute abdominal symptoms.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 24857.
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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	5 May 2016	N/A
Revision	2	25 July 2019	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0121
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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 The Skills Organisation reviewcomments@skills.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.