

Unit of Competency template

Unit code	HLTAUD014	
Unit title	Manage and remove cerumen	
Modification History	Release	Comments
	Release 1.	HLTAUD014 Manage and remove cerumen supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTAUD006 Remove cerumen. Performance criteria added. Performance evidence updated. Additions in knowledge evidence. Foundation skills added.
Application	This unit covers the skills and knowledge required to check for and remove cerumen in adult clients. This unit applies to audiometrists. <i>The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian/New Zealand standards and industry codes of practice.</i> <i>No occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</i>	
Pre-requisite unit	N/A	
Competency field	N/A	
Unit sector	Audiometry	
Elements	Performance criteria	
1. Prepare for cerumen removal	1.1 Review client case history and case management plan to determine client needs 1.2 Identify contraindications to cerumen removal from the medical history and refer to appropriate health professionals for further assessment and treatment 1.3 Explain cerumen removal procedure and encourage client to ask questions 1.4 Gain client consent for cerumen removal procedure 1.5 Set up equipment according to organisational and infection control procedures	

2. Conduct otoscopy	2.1 Follow personal hygiene and infection control, including hand hygiene, correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and safe handling of materials, in accordance with organisational procedures 2.2 Conduct otoscopy and maintain client comfort according to organisational procedures 2.3 Identify contraindications and precautions to cerumen removal 2.4 Identify most appropriate method for cerumen removal based on otoscopy findings 2.5 Soften cerumen according to cerumen softening procedures 2.6 Make referrals to an appropriate agency for further assessment and treatment according to organisational procedures, when cerumen removal cannot be completed safely
3. Remove cerumen	3.1 Select speculum size that meet client needs 3.2 Extract cerumen using equipment according to infection control procedures 3.3 Monitor client to identify and manage risks throughout the cerumen removal procedure
4. Follow post-cerumen removal procedures	4.1 Complete post-cerumen removal otoscopic inspection to review status of ear canal 4.2 Address post removal requirements according to organisational procedures 4.3 Educate and counsel clients about external ear care 4.4 Document treatment according to organisational procedures 4.5 Identify the need for referral and refer client to other health professionals 4.6 Clean and store equipment according to organisational procedures
Foundation skills Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.	
Range of conditions N/A	

Unit mapping information	HLTAUD014 <i>supersedes and is not equivalent to</i> HLTAUD006 Remove cerumen
Links	https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705

Mandatory fields are highlighted 

Assessment Requirements template

Title	Assessment Requirements for HLTAUD014 Manage and remove cerumen
Performance evidence	The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role. There must be evidence that the candidate has: ▪ followed standard clinical procedures to independently remove cerumen for at least 30 clients, including: ○ used cerumenolytic agents to soften cerumen, taking into account any client allergies ○ provided post procedure care as required ○ referred at least 5 clients to other health professionals for further assessment and treatment ○ educated clients about external ear care
Knowledge evidence	The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of: ▪ national and state/territory legal and ethical considerations for cerumen removal, including: ○ duty of care ○ informed consent ○ privacy, confidentiality and disclosure ○ records management ○ work role boundaries, responsibilities and limitations ○ contraindications and indicators for referral ▪ anatomy, physiology and common disorders of the outer and middle ear, including: ○ medical and post-surgical conditions of the outer and middle ear that alter the appearance and/or function of the external ear canal or tympanic membrane ○ client positioning for safe and optimal cerumen removal

	○ how to adjust headlamp for optimal view ○ selecting a speculum for cerumen removal ▪ clinically safe technique for cerumen curettage ▪ micro-suction technology and types of equipment used ▪ contraindications and precautions for micro-suction and curettage ▪ infection control protocols in micro-suction and curettage ▪ strategies used to educate and counsel clients regarding cerumen management, including: ○ common causes and symptoms of cerumen build-up ○ safe practices for cerumen management ○ available methods for cerumen removal ○ communication techniques for explaining procedures in plain language
Assessment conditions	Assessment of performance evidence may be in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real workplace. The following conditions must be met for this unit: • use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including: ○ sterilisation equipment ○ otoscope ○ cerumenolytic agents ○ means of disposing blood products ○ cerumen extraction equipment ○ organisational procedures relevant to managing and removing cerumen ○ manufacturer instructions • modelling of industry operating conditions, including: ○ integration of problem solving activities ○ time constraints for completion of activities ○ provision of services to individuals with varied needs Assessors must satisfy the current Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors
Links	https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705

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