

<b>Title:</b>	Cleaning, Decontamination and Waste Management
<b>Level:</b>	2
<b>Credit value:</b>	2
<b>GLH:</b>	20
<b>Unique Reference Number:</b>	A/616/3078
<b>Sector Subject Area:</b>	1.3 Health and Social Care
<b>Aim:</b>	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to maintain a clean environment in accordance with national policies; to understand the procedures to follow to decontaminate an area from infection; and to explain good practice when dealing with waste materials. This unit does not cover the decontamination of surgical instruments.
<b>Assessment Type:</b>	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
<b>Assessment Guidance:</b>	<p>Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity.</p> <p>Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.</p> <p>This unit must be assessed in line with Skills for Health Assessment Principles.</p>

### Learning outcomes

*The learner will:*

1. Be able to understand how to maintain a clean environment.

#### **Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the general principles of environmental cleaning and the importance of cleaning schedules in maintaining hygiene standards. Learners will explore how proper environmental management minimises the spread of infection, including the rationale behind national policies such as the colour coding of cleaning equipment to promote effective infection control practices.

The learner must:

- 1.1 State the general principles for environmental cleaning.
- 1.2 Explain the purpose of cleaning schedules.
- 1.3 Describe how the correct management of the environment minimises the spread of infection.
- 1.4 Explain the reason for the national policy for colour coding of cleaning equipment.

2. Be able to understand the principles and steps of the decontamination process.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the decontamination process, including the three essential steps of decontamination, and the proper use of cleaning and disinfecting agents. Learners will also explore the role of personal protective equipment (PPE) in ensuring safety during decontamination, the concept of risk related to contamination, and how the level of risk influences the choice of decontamination agents. Additionally, learners will gain knowledge on how to properly clean and store equipment to maintain hygiene standards and prevent infection.

The learner must:

- 2.1 Describe the three steps of the decontamination process.
- 2.2 Describe how and when cleaning agents are used.
- 2.3 Describe how and when disinfecting agents are used.
- 2.4 Explain the role of personal protective equipment (PPE) during the decontamination process.
- 2.5 Explain the concept of risk in dealing with specific types of contamination.
- 2.6 Explain how the level of risk determines the type of agent that may be used to decontaminate.
- 2.7 Describe how equipment should be cleaned and stored.

3. Be able to understand the importance of good waste management practice.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand waste management in healthcare settings, including the identification of different waste categories and the associated risks. Learners will explore safe disposal

methods, the correct storage of waste prior to collection, and the legal responsibilities related to waste management. The unit also covers measures to reduce the risk of sharps injury, ensuring a safe and compliant approach to waste handling and disposal.

The learner must:

- 3.1 Identify the different categories of waste and the associated risks.
- 3.2 Explain how to dispose of the different types of waste safely and without risk to others.
- 3.3 Explain how waste should be stored prior to collection.
- 3.4 Identify the legal responsibilities in relation to waste management.
- 3.5 State how to reduce the risk of sharps injury.