

Title:	Understanding Phlebotomy Skills and Techniques
Level:	3
Credit value:	3
GLH:	26
Unique Reference Number:	R/618/6267
Sector Subject Area:	1.3 Health and Social Care
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to carry out phlebotomy procedures safely and effectively. It covers key terminology, the principles of informed consent (including for paediatric patients), relevant health and safety legislation, and organisational policies and procedures. Learners will develop an understanding of infection control, the management of complications, and the appropriate use of equipment such as tourniquets. The unit also includes practical training in blood collection using a dummy arm, procedures to follow when venepuncture is unsuccessful, patient aftercare, and the correct preparation and packing of samples for transportation.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
Assessment Guidance:	Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity. Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Be able to understand key terminology associated with phlebotomy.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand phlebotomy by introducing key terminology and outlining the main steps involved in the phlebotomy procedure, supporting accurate communication and procedural awareness.

The learner must:

<p>1.1 Explain the key terminology associated with Phlebotomy.</p> <p>1.2 Identify the main steps in the phlebotomy procedure.</p>
<p>2. Be able to understand the principles of informed patient consent, including paediatric consent.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the importance of obtaining informed patient consent in phlebotomy, including the key principles that ensure ethical, legal, and patient-centred practice throughout the procedure.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <p>2.1 Explain the importance of gaining patient informed consent.</p> <p>2.2 Explain the principles of informed patient consent.</p>
<p>3. Be able to know current health and safety legislation and regulations as relevant to phlebotomy.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand how current health and safety legislation and regulations, such as the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare) Regulations 2013, directly impact phlebotomy practices, ensuring compliance and safeguarding both patients and practitioners.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <p>3.1 Summarise how current health and safety legislation and regulations impact on phlebotomy practices, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and safety at Work etc Act 1974 (or current version)• Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare)• Regulations 2013 (or current version)
<p>4. Be able to understand an organisation's application of phlebotomy policies and procedures.</p>

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand how organisations implement and adhere to phlebotomy policies and procedures, ensuring safe and effective practices that align with institutional standards and regulatory requirements

The learner must:

- 4.1 Explain how an organisation applies phlebotomy policies and procedures.

5. Be able to understand the principles of infection control during venepuncture.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand infection control in phlebotomy, including the ways in which infection may be spread, the clinical steps involved in effective hand washing, and the importance of maintaining hygiene. Learners will also explore additional infection control measures to ensure patient and practitioner safety during phlebotomy procedures.

The learner must:

- 5.1 Explain ways in which infection may be spread.
- 5.2 Identify the clinical steps for hand washing.
- 5.3 Explain the importance of hand washing.
- 5.4 Explain additional methods of infection control.

6. Be able to know how to recognise and respond to complications which could occur during venepuncture.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to identify potential complications that may arise during venepuncture and understand the appropriate responses and interventions to manage each situation effectively, ensuring patient safety and procedural success.

The learner must:

- 6.1 Explain potential complications which could occur during venepuncture.
- 6.2 Explain how to respond to each complication.

7. Be able to know about different types of tourniquet.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to identify two different types of tourniquets used in phlebotomy and understand the specific reasons for their use in facilitating effective venepuncture.

The learner must:

- 7.1 Identify two different types of tourniquet.
- 7.2 For each tourniquet identified state why it is used.

8. Be able to demonstrate application and release of a tourniquet.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to correctly apply and release a tourniquet during phlebotomy, ensuring proper technique to support effective blood collection.

The learner must:

- 8.1 Apply a tourniquet.
- 8.2 Release a tourniquet.

9. Be able to demonstrate taking blood from a dummy arm.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to develop the practical skills practical skills in performing venepuncture using a needle in a dummy arm, while adhering to health and safety precautions and best practices to ensure safe and effective blood collection.

The learner must:

- 9.1 Use a needle in a dummy arm to obtain blood.
- 9.2 Use equipment in accordance with health and safety precautions.

10. Be able to know what action to take if bloods cannot be taken.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the appropriate actions to take if blood cannot be obtained from a patient, including when and where to refer the patient for further assistance. Learners will also reflect on the parameters of their own ability, ensuring that they operate within their competencies and seek support when necessary.

The learner must:

- 10.1 Explain the actions to take if bloods cannot be taken from a patient.
- 10.2 Explain when and where the patient should be referred.
- 10.3 Describe parameters of own ability.

11. Be able to know how to provide patient aftercare.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge of different types of dressings that can be used on venepuncture sites and provide an understanding of effective patient aftercare, ensuring proper healing and patient comfort following the procedure.

The learner must:

- 11.1 Explain types of dressings which could be used on venepuncture sites.
- 11.2 Describe patient aftercare.

12. Be able to know how to prepare and pack samples for transportation.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to identify the essential information needed for labels and documentation, as well as the correct procedures for preparing and packing samples for transportation, ensuring accurate handling and compliance with standards.

The learner must:

- 12.1 Identify the information required for labels and other documentation.
- 12.2 Describe how to prepare and pack samples.