

Collecting Vital Signs and Chief Complaints Competency

Rev 09-11

Student's Name:		Date:	
Evaluator's Name:		ABHES/CAAHEP Standard	10.b3.2 10.b4.2 2.b.2 3.c.2 8.cc.2 9.a.2 9.c.2 9.d.2 9.p.1 I.P. I.11.A. 1.1 I.P. I.1 IV.A.IV.2 IV.A.IV.4 IV.P.IV.1
Degree:	AAS <input type="checkbox"/>	Diploma <input type="checkbox"/>	Course Name / # : MA149 Patient Care Sciences I

Competency Objective:
To accurately measure and record the following vital signs: Temperature, Pulse, Respirations, and Blood Pressure.
Equipment/Conditions:
A thermometer (electronic), sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, watch with second hand, pen and patient record. Student readings must match instructor's readings as follows: temperature within 0.2 degrees, pulse within 2 BPM, respirations will be within 1/minute and blood pressure readings will be within +/- 2mmHg for both systolic and diastolic measurements. Competency completed in fifteen (15) minutes or less.
Accuracy Standards:
All performance mechanics must be completed accurately and professionally to pass the competency. Should the assessment render a non-proficient on any step, or if the student neglects to complete a step, the competency is not passed and will need to be attempted again. Students will receive three attempts to pass the competency. The second attempt will be scaled by 0.89, the third by 0.79.

Score	Performance Mechanics
	1. Wash hands. Assemble equipment and supplies.
	2. Greet patient, introduce yourself, confirm patient identity, and describe the procedure.
	3. Explain the procedures for taking their temperature and pulse measurements (Do not mention respirations) and blood pressure. Ask about recent physical activity or smoking, and eating/drinking hot or cold items in the past 30 minutes.
	4. Measure and document patient's temperature.
	5. Position patient to measure and document pulse and respiration rates. Student and instructor will measure readings simultaneously (standing on opposite sides of the patient).
	6. Position patient to measure and document blood pressure. Student and instructor will measure readings simultaneously (using the teaching/tandem stethoscope).
	7. Choose the appropriate size cuff. Locate the brachial artery. Center the cuff over the artery and apply the cuff correctly. Close the valve.
	Blood Pressure Procedural Steps:
	8. Locate the brachial artery and position stethoscope diaphragm correctly.
	9. Inflate the cuff.
	10. Release air from cuff and note an accurate systolic pressure reading.
	11. Continue listening and note an accurate diastolic pressure reading.
	12. Open the valve completely and allow the cuff to totally deflate. Remove the cuff.
	13. Thank patient and wash or sanitize hands.
	14. Document all vital sign measurements in patient's record.
	15. Throughout competency, speak professionally and adhere to HIPAA guidelines.
	16. Laboratory dress code and professionalism policy followed throughout competency.
	17. Start time _____ End time: _____ Task completed within 15 minutes

Total Score	_____	_____	17	_____	_____	%	
_____	(Total Score ÷ # of Criteria)		=	Mechanics	Refer to Table for Percent		

	Initial Score	Multiply by	Final Score
First Attempt		1.0	
Second Attempt		.89	
Third Attempt		.79	

4.0 = 100%	3.3 = 86%	2.6 = 76%	1.9 = 69%	1.2 = 62%
3.9 = 98%	3.2 = 84%	2.5 = 75%	1.8 = 68%	1.1 = 61%
3.8 = 96%	3.1 = 82%	2.4 = 74%	1.7 = 67%	1.0 = 60%
3.7 = 94%	3.0 = 80%	2.3 = 73%	1.6 = 66%	0.9 = 59%
3.6 = 92%	2.9 = 79%	2.2 = 72%	1.5 = 65%	0.8 = 58%
3.5 = 90%	2.8 = 78%	2.1 = 71%	1.4 = 64%	0.7 = 57%
3.4 = 88%	2.7 = 77%	2.0 = 70%	1.3 = 63%	

Assessment Key	
4	Demonstrates excellent performance with regards to proficiency, safety, professionalism and consistency. No reminders and/or cueing are necessary. Performance is above the level necessary for employment.
3	Performance meets expectations for proficiency, safety, professionalism and consistency. Demonstrates some hesitancy but no reminders and/or cueing are necessary. Performance is at the level necessary for employment.
2	Performance requires guidance to reach expectations for proficiency, safety, professionalism and consistency. 1-2 reminders and/or cues are necessary for non-critical aspects of competency criteria. Performance meets expectations for employment with some guidance.
0	Unacceptable performance is displayed regarding proficiency, safety, professionalism or consistency. Student needs further practice to perform skill at professional level or student was not present for evaluation.

Comments:	
Instructor Signature:	
Student Signature:	