Unit 4223-459  Prepare anaesthetic environment and provide support for pre- and post-operative anaesthesia and recovery

Level: 3
Credit value: 5
UAN number: D/602/3976

Unit aim
This unit equips learners within this anaesthetic/recovery environment with knowledge about H&S measures and the parameters for clinical readings, as well as competence in the preparation of equipment and the care of these individuals. This involves a degree of autonomy and responsibility.

Learning outcomes
There are four learning outcomes to this unit. The learner will:
1. Understand health and safety measures specific to carrying out activities in the anaesthetic/recovery environment
2. Understand the parameters for clinical readings taken in the anaesthetic/recovery environment
3. Be able to prepare and maintain anaesthetic/recovery equipment for the reception of individuals
4. Be able to assist the registered practitioner in caring for individuals in the anaesthetic/recovery environment

Guided learning hours
It is recommended that 38 hours should be allocated for this unit, although patterns of delivery are likely to vary.

Details of the relationship between the unit and relevant national standards
This unit is linked to the PCS25

Assessment
This unit will be assessed:
• in line with Skills for Health QCF Assessment Principles
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Assessment criteria

Outcome 1  Understand health and safety measures specific to carrying out activities in the anaesthetic/recovery environment

The learner can:
1. Explain the standard precautions required for preparing the anaesthetic/recovery environment and the potential consequences of poor practice
2. Explain the importance of wearing personal protective equipment in the anaesthetic/recovery environment
3. Explain the importance of using equipment in line with manufacturers’ instructions and local policy and protocol
4. Explain how to recognise clinical emergencies, and how to provide support to the registered practitioner in these emergencies.

Outcome 2  Understand the parameters for clinical readings taken in the anaesthetic/recovery environment

The learner can:
1. Identify the normal parameters for temperature, pulse, blood pressure, respiration, oxygen levels and urinary output
2. Explain how to measure an individual’s temperature, blood pressure, respiration, oxygen levels and urinary output
3. Explain how anaesthesia may affect an individual’s temperature, pulse, blood pressure, respiration, oxygen levels and urinary output
4. Explain the common adverse reactions an individual may experience related to anaesthetic and recovery care
5. Explain the importance of reporting any issues beyond own competence in accordance with local policy and protocol.

Outcome 3  Be able to prepare and maintain anaesthetic/recovery equipment for the reception of individuals

The learner can:
1. Implement health and safety measures relevant to anaesthetic/recovery equipment
2. Apply standard precautions for infection control
3. Make equipment and documentation available for the registered practitioner
4. Document and report any equipment that is unfit for use according to local policy and protocol
5. Clean reusable equipment in line with local policy and protocol
6. Dispose of single use equipment and waste according to local policy and protocol
7. Explain the importance of maintaining the stock of disposables/fluids/linen.
Outcome 4  Be able to assist the registered practitioner in caring for individuals in the anaesthetic/recovery environment

The learner can:

1. Confirm the individual’s identity and gain valid consent
2. Maintain the individual's privacy, dignity and comfort when the individual is transferred and received into the anaesthetic/recovery environment
3. Work within own sphere of competence, recognising when to refer on issues
4. Use verbal and non verbal skills to support individuals, prior to and after anaesthesia/sedation, overcoming any possible communication difficulties
5. Support the registered practitioner in the assessment, management and reassurance of the individual in the anaesthetic/recovery environment
6. Explain the importance of monitoring the individual as delegated by the registered practitioner in accordance with the care plan
7. Measure and record clinical observations, reporting any deviation from normal parameters to the registered practitioner
8. Record information in line with local policy and protocol.

Additional guidance

**Standard precautions** are the precautions considered sufficient to reduce the risk of harm or injury by transmission of pathogens