Unit 4222-266 Cleaning, decontamination and waste management (IC 03)

Level: **2**
Credit value: **2**
UAN: **R/501/6738**

Unit aim

To explain to the learner the correct way of maintaining 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.

Learning outcomes

There are **three** learning outcomes to this unit. The learner will:

1. Understand how to maintain a clean environment to prevent the spread of infection
2. Understand the principles and steps of the decontamination process
3. Understand the importance of good waste management practice in the prevention of the spread of infection

Guided learning hours

It is recommended that **20** 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

- There are some relationships between this unit and those of other standards such as
- Key Skills, Functional Skills and Skills for Life
- General Healthcare Competence GEN3 Maintain health and safety in a clinical/therapeutic environment (K5)
- Knowledge and Skills Framework Core 3 Health safety and Security
- Health and Social Care NOS HSC 246, 230, 0032
- Infection Prevention and Control NOS IPC1,3,4,6,7

Assessment

This unit must be assessed in line with Skills for Care and Development's QCF Assessment Principles.

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Assessment Criteria

Outcome 1 Understand how to maintain a clean environment to prevent the spread of infection

The learner can:

1. state the general principles for environmental cleaning
2. explain the purpose of cleaning schedules
3. describe how the correct management of the environment minimises the spread of infection
4. explain the reason for the national policy for colour coding of cleaning equipment.

Outcome 2 Understand the principles and steps of the decontamination process

The learner can:

1. describe the three steps of the decontamination process
2. describe how and when cleaning agents are used
3. describe how and when disinfecting agents are used
4. explain the role of personal protective equipment (PPE) during the decontamination process
5. explain the concept of risk in dealing with specific types of contamination
6. explain how the level of risk determines the type of agent that may be used to decontaminate
7. describe how equipment should be cleaned and stored.

Outcome 3 Understand the importance of good waste management practice in the prevention of the spread of infection

The learner can:

1. identify the different categories of waste and the associated risks
2. explain how to dispose of the different types of waste safely and without risk to others
3. explain how waste should be stored prior to collection
4. identify the legal responsibilities in relation to waste management
5. state how to reduce the risk of sharps injury.