



National Consortium for Health Science Education  
National Health Science Career Cluster Model

Diagnostic Services Pathway  
Standards & Accountability Criteria

These standards apply to occupations or functions primarily involved in creating a picture of the health status of patients and other clients at a single point in time. The standards specify the knowledge and skills needed by professionals in the diagnostic services pathway.

**Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 1: Multidisciplinary Communication** Diagnostic services professionals will communicate information within a healthcare environment. They will convey this information to the appropriate discipline(s) in a timely manner.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Communicate key diagnostic information to healthcare workers and patients in an accurate and timely manner.

**Accountability Criteria**

**1.1 Oral Communication Skills**

- 1.11 Adjust communication to other's ability to understand.
- 1.12 Apply active listening skills using reflection, restatement, and clarification.
- 1.13 Demonstrate courtesy to others including self-introduction.
- 1.14 Interpret verbal and nonverbal behaviors to augment communication and within scope of practice.
- 1.15 Demonstrate interviewing skills.

**1.2 Written Communication Skills**

- 1.21 Choose correct syntax and grammar.
- 1.22 Report relevant information in a timely manner.
- 1.23 Distinguish between subjective and objective information when reporting.
- 1.24 Analyze communication for appropriate response and provide feedback.
- 1.25 Organize, write and compile technical information and summaries.
- 1.26 Use medical terminology in order to interpret, transcribe and communicate information, data and observations.

**Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 2: Assessment of Patients and Other Clients** Status Diagnostic services professionals will understand the process to assess and report patients and other client's health status.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Assess and report patient's/client's health status in order to monitor and document patient progress.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **2.1 Assessment of patients and other client's health status**

- 2.11 Analyze available information to assess client viability.
- 2.12 Evaluate and appraise appropriateness of information.
- 2.13 Evaluate patient and other client response to treatment and/or procedure.
- 2.14 Produce appropriate documentation.

### **Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 3: Patient and Other Client Movement** Diagnostic services professionals will understand the principles of body mechanics for positioning, transferring, and transporting of patients and other clients. These activities will be performed efficiently without injury to patients and other clients or self.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Demonstrate the principles of body mechanics for positioning, transferring and transporting of patients/clients, and perform them without injury to the patient/client or self.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **3.1 Patient and Client Safety**

- 3.11 Assess the patient and other client status.
- 3.12 Evaluate potential hazards to patient and other client.
- 3.13 Choose and apply appropriate transport methods.
- 3.14 Choose and apply appropriate transfer methods.
- 3.15 Modify positioning to accommodate patient and other client status.

#### **3.2 Personal Safety**

- 3.21 Apply principles of body mechanics and ergonomics.
- 3.22 Prevent injury by using proper safety equipment and techniques.
- 3.23 Choose engineering controls as appropriate.

#### **3.3 Equipment Safety**

- 3.31 Evaluate equipment for possible hazards.
- 3.32 Choose appropriate equipment for transportation.
- 3.33 Choose appropriate equipment for transfer.
- 3.34 Modify equipment and techniques to accommodate patient and other client status.
- 3.35 Choose and practice infection control procedures.

### **Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standards 4: Patients and Other Clients Interaction** Diagnostic services professionals will understand how to explain procedures and goals to patients and other clients. Various strategies will be used to respond to patients' and other clients' questions and concerns.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Explain procedures and goals to the patient/client

accurately and effectively, using strategies to respond to questions and concerns.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **4.1 Explanation of Procedures and Goals**

- 4.11 Assess patient and other client's ability to comprehend.
- 4.12 Adjust and modify based on assessment.
- 4.13 Verify patient and other client's understanding.

#### **4.2 Interaction Strategies**

- 4.21 Apply active listening skills using reflection, restatement, and clarification techniques.
- 4.22 Address patient and other client concerns in a positive manner.

### **Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 5: Preparation** Diagnostic services professionals will understand the requests for procedures, interpret the requests, and plan implementation of services as well as appropriate preparation for specific procedures.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Select, demonstrate and interpret diagnostic procedures.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **5.1 Procedural Requests**

- 5.11 Comprehend Scope of Practice.
- 5.12 Evaluate request for appropriateness.
- 5.13 Coordinate interdisciplinary services if applicable.

#### **5.2 Service implementation**

- 5.21 Initiate services based on request.

#### **5.3 Protocol Preparation**

- 5.31 Choose appropriate protocol based on client assessment and request.
- 5.32 Choose protocol based on resources.

#### **5.4 Patient and Other Client Preparation**

- 5.41 Verify patient and other client identification.
- 5.42 Ensure client readiness and assess for contraindication.
- 5.43 Obtain client informed consent if applicable.

### **Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 6: Procedure** Diagnostic services professionals will understand any given procedure and perform these procedures to create diagnostic results.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Select, demonstrate and interpret diagnostic procedures.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **6.1 Procedure Performance**

- 6.11 Cognizant of their scope of practice.

- 6.12 Competent within their scope of practice.
- 6.13 Perform procedure according to protocol.
- 6.14 Modify procedure as required within constraints of client and personal safety.

### **Diagnostic Services Pathway**

**Standard 7: Evaluation and Reporting** Diagnostic services professionals will understand the principles of quality assurance/performance improvement as applied to the specific disciplines as well as reporting in a timely manner, utilizing appropriate communication channels.

**Common Career Technical Core (CCTC):** Select, demonstrate and interpret diagnostic procedures.

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **7.1 Procedural Evaluation**

- 7.11 Assess the quality of results.
- 7.12 Construct and apply appropriate corrective measures/actions.

#### **7.2 Personal Evaluation**

- 7.21 Evaluate quality of results.
- 7.22 Assess problem-solving skills.
- 7.23 Evaluate timeliness and productivity.

#### **7.3 Equipment**

- 7.31 Evaluate quality of results.
- 7.32 Analysis, construct and apply appropriate corrective measures.

#### **7.4 Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement**

- 7.41 Choose appropriate evaluation methods.
- 7.42 Evaluate and apply appropriate tools.

#### **7.5 Reporting Methods**

- 7.51 Use written, oral and electronic communication skills to produce reports.
- 7.52 Deliver reports to all appropriate parties.
- 7.53 Confirm that the parties involved receive all necessary information.