



**Australian Government**

**HLTSTE014 Care and maintain reusable  
medical devices**

# HLTSTE014 Care and maintain reusable medical devices

## Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit of competency was first released in HLT Health Release 11.0.

## Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to maintain reusable medical devices during the reprocessing process.

This unit applies to individuals working under general supervision and within established procedures in a range of health and non-health facilities.

*The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian Standards and industry codes of practice.*

## Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

## Pre-requisite unit(s)

No pre-requisite units

## Competency field(s)

N/A

## Unit sector(s)

Sterile Medical Equipment

## Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
<i>Elements define the essential outcomes of a unit of competency</i>	<i>The Performance Criteria specify the level of performance required to demonstrate achievement of the Element</i>
1. Introducing new reusable medical devices	1.1 Verify new reusable medical devices are registered according to regulatory requirements and manufacturer's instructions for use

	<p>1.2 Reprocess new reusable medical devices prior to initial use according to manufacturer's instructions for use</p> <p>1.3 Verify reusable medical devices are compatible with available reprocessing equipment</p>
<p>2. Care and maintenance requirements for reusable medical devices</p>	<p>2.1 Maintain general and specialised reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p> <p>2.2 Identify composition, manufacturing process and maintenance of passivation layer in reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions for use</p> <p>2.3 Assess reusable medical devices for galvanic corrosion, and pitting according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p> <p>2.4 Identify and assess factors that affect the surface changes to reusable medical devices and the risk to patients according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p> <p>2.5 Determine limitations and functional capacity for reprocessing of reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions and organisational procedures</p> <p>2.6 Complete insulation testing for reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures and report to designated personnel</p> <p>2.7 Lubricate reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p>
<p>3. Process for repairing and servicing reusable medical services</p>	<p>3.1 Identify and report faulty reusable medical devices according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p> <p>3.2 Reprocess faulty or damaged reusable medical devices prior to sending for service or repair according to manufacturer's instructions for use and organisational procedures</p> <p>3.3 Report traceability and documentation requirements for reusable medical devices requiring repair or service according to organisational procedures</p> <p>3.4 Complete documentation for reusable medical devices returning from service or repair according to organisational procedures</p>
<p>4. Monitor and maintain quality processes</p>	<p>4.1 Report quality documentation for general and specialised reusable medical devices</p>

	4.2 Conduct maintenance activities for reusable medical devices using safe manual handling techniques
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## Foundation skills

The foundation skills essential to performance of this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.

Skills	Description
Learning skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use organisational procedures, manufacturer's instructions and Standards for the care and maintenance of reusable medical devices.</li> <li>organise workflow.</li> </ul>
Reading skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>interpret technical documents including organisational procedures, manufacturer's instructions, quality management guidelines, Standards and safety data sheets for chemicals.</li> </ul>

*Digital literacy outcomes are included in the Foundation Skills Companion Volume.*

## Range of conditions

N/A

# Assessment Requirements for HLTSTE014 Care and maintain reusable medical devices

## Performance Evidence

The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role. There must be evidence that the candidate has:

- followed established procedures, work processes and national Standard for the care, maintenance and insulation testing of 9 reusable medical devices from the list below, on at least 3 separate occasions, including:
  - disassembly and re-assembly of multi-part reusable medical devices
- inspection of reprocessed reusable medical devices, including:
  - scissors
  - box joints and screw joints
  - a solid plain instrument
  - forceps
  - cannulated devices
- prepared, cleaned and inspected a range of reusable medical devices, including:
  - solid plain reusable medical devices
  - those requiring disassembly
  - those with textured surfaces
  - delicate items
  - manual and powered items
  - cannulated devices, including:
    - cannulated items, lumens
    - blind ended reusable medical devices
- identified and responded to routine process and maintenance problems and variations
- addressed relevant work health and safety, infection prevention and control and manual handling requirements

## Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of:

- duty of care and impact of care of reusable medical devices on operative procedures and patient care outcomes

- requirements of Standard AS5369 and its role in the care and maintenance of reusable medical devices
- care and maintenance requirements for general and specialised reusable medical devices, including:
  - manufacturer's instructions for use
- Spaulding classifications, including:
  - critical
  - semi-critical
  - non-critical
- role of regulatory requirements for registration of reusable medical devices
- safety data sheets and chemical use for reusable medical devices reprocessing
- product families, including general and specialised reusable medical devices
- use of reusable medical devices in different operative procedures
- manual handling and work health and safety requirements
- infection prevention and control requirements
- preparation and inspection requirements for reusable medical devices
- personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements
- chemicals and principles of passivation
- systems for identifying reusable medical devices
- reusable medical devices material, design and composition and their relationship to reprocessing requirements
- impact of repeated processing, potential surface changes to reusable medical devices and preventative measures
- risks for potential surface changes, rust, discolouration and other factors that affect reusable medical devices
- contact corrosion and metal compatibility
- risk assessment and corrective actions
- maintenance activities
- leak testing and requirements for the reprocessing of flexible endoscopes
- importance of inspection of insulation testing
- reusable medical devices repair requirements and process
- process for purchasing and introducing new reusable medical devices
- process for introducing loan reusable medical devices

## Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions.

The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
  - AS5369
  - operational cleaning and drying equipment
  - cleaning procedures to be followed by the candidate
  - equipment manufacturer's instructions for use
  - personal protective equipment (PPE)
- modelling of industry operating conditions, including:
  - requirements for the cleaning process
  - presence of situations requiring problem-solving

Assessors must satisfy the current Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTO's)/AQF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

## Mandatory Workplace Requirements

Assessment of performance evidence may be in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real workplace.

## Unit Mapping Information

Previous Code and Title	Equivalence	Comments
HLTSTE005 Care for reusable medical devices	Not equivalent	<i>Minor changes to unit application. Significant changes to elements and performance criteria. Significant changes to performance evidence, and knowledge evidence.</i>

## Links

Companion volumes, including implementation guides, are found on the national training register - <https://training.gov.au/training/details/HLT>.