

### **DANOS AH3 Supply and exchange injecting equipment for individuals**

This unit is about establishing the extent and type of individuals' injecting behaviour, providing harm minimisation advice, providing injecting equipment and exchanging used injecting equipment. It also covers maintaining records of the supply and exchange of injecting equipment in order that the service can be monitored and evaluated.

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Name of applicant:

*I confirm that I am the line manager / supervisor for the above named.*

*I have assessed the applicant's competence in relation to each of the numbered items listed overleaf and have placed my initials against each numbered item to indicate my satisfaction that the applicant has demonstrated the competence to which it refers (see notes below).*

*My assessment of the applicant's competence in this unit is based on the following (see notes below):*

Name:

Signed:

Date:

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#### Notes

You should 'sign off' the applicant's competence in relation to each of the items listed below only where you have *clear evidence* that they have demonstrated the appropriate knowledge or skills in *real life* settings. Your assessment should be based on one or more of the following: observation of the applicant's practice, your supervision of the applicant, evidence provided by an appropriate third party (such as clients / colleagues / previous supervisor/line manager). Note - completion of a training course does NOT itself provide evidence of competence in a particular area.

In some cases the applicant will not have the opportunity within their existing position to demonstrate all of the required competences. Where this is the case arrangements will need to be made for their competence to be assessed in an alternative setting (such as on placement), or, where applicable, for it to be confirmed by a supervisor / line manager from a previous post.

### **Conduct initial assessment and provide advice**

To perform to the standard you must ensure that:

1. you establish whether the individual is injecting and the frequency of injecting
2. you establish whether a needle exchange service can be provided for the individual in line with local policy (e.g. for children and young people a needle exchange service may be inappropriate)
3. you conduct a health assessment with the individual
4. you provide advice on safe or safer injecting techniques and sites
5. you provide relevant and timely advice on harm minimisation, primary health and safer sex
6. you provide advice and resources for safe storage and disposal of injecting equipment
7. you refer individuals to other services according to identified need
8. you liaise with providers of other services in line with policies and protocols
9. you maintain records of the needle exchange service

### **Supply and exchange injecting equipment**

To perform to the standard you must ensure that

1. you check that adequate stocks of injecting equipment are maintained
2. you check that injecting equipment is stored safely and securely
3. you dispense injecting equipment to individuals in line with the assessment of their needs
4. you demonstrate safe handling of dispensed injecting equipment
5. you carry out the exchange process discreetly and give out injecting equipment in a dispensing bag to maintain confidentiality
6. you do not handle returned injecting equipment, but direct individuals to place returned injecting equipment in the sharps bins themselves
7. you check that sharps bins are correctly assembled and never over-filled
8. you adhere to your organisations' needle exchange policies and procedures
9. you deal with any spillages and discarded needles and syringes using the appropriate materials
10. you maintain records of injecting equipment supply and exchange in line with organisational procedures
11. you maintain confidentiality in all matters relating to individuals using the exchange scheme

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

To perform competently in this unit, you need to know and understand:

#### Legislation, policy and good practice

1. organisational and legal procedures and requirements regarding the recording, storage and passing on of information relating to individuals and work undertaken with them
2. policy guidelines and legislation for needle exchange with under-16s
3. policy guidelines for working with individuals with learning difficulties
4. health and safety legislation relevant to transportation and storage of used injecting equipment
5. legal obligations and organisational policies regarding client confidentiality
6. legal obligations and local policies regarding service provision for children and young people

FDAP Drug & Alcohol Professional Certification  
Workplace Assessment

7. organisational policies and procedures for the supply and exchange of injecting equipment
8. potential benefits of brief interventions (e.g. referring individuals to other services)
9. complaints and appeals procedures which individuals can utilise
10. the range of substance misuse services offered by your organisation and other organisations

Information handling

1. the importance of keeping full and accurate records, and how to do so

Substance misuse

1. the range of behaviours that can be expected from substance users, and how to deal with these
2. how to recognise and deal with immediate risk of danger to individuals who have used substances

Supply and exchange of injecting equipment

1. harm reduction techniques when using injecting equipment
2. the health risks associated with returned needles
3. how to dispose of needles safely
4. potential blood borne viruses including HIV, Hepatitis B and C
5. how to provide safe sex advice
6. what to do in the event of a needle stick injury occurring
7. what constitutes adequate stocks of injecting equipment

Good practice

1. how to provide a service with due regard for personal health and safety

Values

1. the rights of individuals to equal access to substance misuse services