



Guidelines to Competency Assessment for Health Professionals Caring for Patients with Wounds

1.0	Professional Practice	Standard 1, 2 & 3
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Practices in accordance with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). ▪ Complies with legislation standards codes and regulation governing each speciality practice. http://www.ahpra.gov.au/ August 2010 	
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides a holistic assessment of the individual, the wound and the healing environment; ▪ Performs a risk assessment analysis early intervention and appropriate referral as required. 	
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies unsafe practise and has the ability to respond appropriately. 	
2.0	Intellectual skills-knowledge and understanding	Standard 2 & 6
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has a sound understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The anatomy and physiology of the skin and associated structures; ○ The physiology if wound healing and tissue repair; ○ Factors impairing wound healing and ways to minimise same; ○ Signs/symptoms of colonisation to clinical infection, including superficial infections, cellulitis, sepsis. 	
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is able to perform a comprehensive assessment of the wound and surrounding skin; ▪ Is able to differentiate between different skin types and discuss issues related to skin type; ▪ Has an understanding of the different types of investigations used related to wound management; ▪ Can identify best practise related to wound care choices. 	
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assists individuals to make health care decisions related to the impact of their management interventions. 	
2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicates strategies appropriate to the individual. 	
2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies the psychosocial impact of both acute and chronic wounds. 	
3.0	Management of Wound	Standard 2 & 7
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locates and utilises best available research. 	

3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can apply the principles of wound bed preparation including dressing and cleansing techniques to the management of the wound. ▪ Implements general management for infected wounds. 	
3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilises information technology systems within Health Care Service for wound documentation and other related equipment. 	
3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implements a care plan including goals of care and expected management outcomes. 	
3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implements strategies for patient follow-up/prevention of recurrence. 	
4.0	Collaborative practise	Standard 1 & 2
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotes effective communication between other health professionals and clients. 	
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shares decision making with other health care professionals. 	
4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognises own limitations in relation to caring for clients with wounds and seeks advice. 	
4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Liaises with relevant community and health care agencies on order to maintain continuity of care. 	

Based on:

- Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council, National Competency Standards for the Nurse Practitioner (2004), Registered and Enrolled Nurse (2004/2005);
- Standards for Wound Management 1st edition (2002). Australian Wound Management Association Inc.