

COMMUNITY CARE SKILLS STANDARDS FRAMEWORK FOR SUPPORT CARE ROLES

Skills Domain	Therapy
Skills Category	Electro-Physical Agent Application
Skills Standard Title	Apply Electro-Physical Agents
Skills Standard Descriptor	Administer and monitor electro-physical agents as prescribed
Skills Proficiency Level	Level 1 <i>Previously 'Basic II' under CCSSF</i>
Source Code	CCSSF-T-EPAA-2001-1
Knowledge <i>This refers to the gathering and cognitive processing of facts and information required to perform work tasks and activities.</i>	Underpinning Knowledge: • Safety of all types of Electro-Physical Agents (EPAs). • Use of EPAs which may include (not limited to): ○ Adjunct treatment. • Groupings of EPAs which may include (not limited to): ○ Electrical or light, ○ Thermal. • Types of EPAs which may include (not limited to): ○ Cold Pack (CP) ○ Hot Pack (HP) • Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulations (TENS) • Neuro Muscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES) • Checklist for application of 4 types of EPAs. • Use of CP, HP, TENS and NMES • Benefits of CP, HP, TENS, and NMES • Therapeutic effects of CP, HP, TENS (for nerves) and NMES (for muscles) • Human anatomy. • Types and function of EPA machines/devices which may include (not limited to): ○ Electrical ○ Thermal • Adverse effect of EPA. • Process of monitoring effect which may include (not limited to): ○ Checking on skin ○ Communicating with client • Sensational Test which may include (not limited to): ○ Hot and Cold ○ Sharp and Blunt • Contraindication which may include (not limited to): ○ Skin injury ○ Swelling ○ Recent cut injury and wound. • Safety precautions

	• Organisational policies and procedures which may include (not limited to): ○ Applying prescribed electro-physical agent (EPA) to the client ○ Communicating with client ○ Incident management ○ Assisting in interventions in consultation with qualified personnel ○ Reinstating all tools and equipment used • Provisions of National Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Long-Term Care Facilities (2018), which may include (not limited to): ○ Use of personal protective equipment ○ Hygiene practices ○ Handling patients with infection ○ Outbreak ○ Hand hygiene • Relevant legal and/or industrial requirements in relation to support care functions, which may include: ○ Implementation Guide to Guidelines for Home Care (Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore) ○ Implementation Guide to Guidelines for Centre-Based Care (Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore) ○ Workplace Safety and Health Guidelines (Workplace Safety and Health Council) ○ National Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Long-Term Care Facilities (Ministry of Health) ○ Allied Health Professions Council (AHPC) guidelines on supervision and delegation of tasks to therapy support staff
Ability <i>This refers to the ability to perform the work tasks and activities required of the occupation, and the ability to react to and manage the changes at work.</i>	The ability to: • Select appropriate EPA for treatment as prescribed by therapist in accordance with organisational procedure. • Greet client and introduce self in accordance with organisational procedure. • Prepare client for application of EPA in accordance with organisational procedure. • Operate EPA machine/equipment following safety guidelines after therapist has set it up. • Perform sensational test which may include (not limited to) in accordance with organisational procedure: ○ cold and hot ○ sharp and blunt • Prepare selected EPA for use according to guidelines. • Explain to client use of EPA and seek clarifications if any according to organisational procedure. • Apply EPA with care according to organisational procedure. • Monitor client throughout the treatment session for adverse effect which may include (not limited to) in accordance with organizational procedure. ○ skin burn ○ blisters • Reinstat EPA machine/equipment with replenishing consumables in

	accordance with organizational procedure. • Put up report of EPA administered to therapist in accordance with organisational procedure. • Report and document findings on EPA process in accordance with organisational procedure.
Person-Centred Care <i>This refers to having a person centred care mind set to drive the care giver to respect and recognise the decisions/choices of the person they are taking care of.</i>	Underlying principles: • Treating clients with dignity and respect by being aware of and supporting personal perspectives, values, beliefs, culture and preferences; respecting their privacy while encouraging independence of the individual; and listening to each other and working in partnership to design and deliver services • To be mindful of client's need of reassurance
Performance Outcome <i>This refers to the outcome of the task on the care recipient as indication of workplace success</i>	• The support care staff is able to apply electro-physical agent in a manner that is respectful of client's dignity, taking into consideration his/her condition, preferences and comfort level.