

Compression bandaging clinical competency

Name:	Role: Band 4
Base:	Date initial training / E mot completed:

Competency Statement:

The participant demonstrates clinical knowledge and skill in compression bandaging without assistance and/or direct supervision (level 3 - see level descriptors). Assessment in practice must be by a Registered Nurse who can demonstrate competence at level 3 or above.

After assessment of competencies Band 4 Healthcare Support Workers may be deemed competent to apply long stretch and short stretch bandages in a clinic and community setting

Performance Criteria	Assessment Method	Level achieved	Date	Assessor/self assessed
The Participant will be able to:				
1. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to apply compression bandaging				
a) The participant is able to demonstrate an understanding of the need for a formal patient and leg ulcer assessment to take place	Questioning			
b) The participant is able to explain their accountability and has read the Trust policy on delegation	Questioning			
c) The participant has undergone the Leg Ulcer programme of education "Journey to Competence".	Questioning			
d) The participant has read the Trusts guidelines and policy on leg ulcer management	Questioning			
e) The participant can discuss the contra-indications/precautions for compression therapy	Questioning / observation			
f) The participant can name the bandages that are required to apply compression therapy	Questioning			
g) Identify which bandages are applied using a figure of eight, and which bandages are applied using a spiral technique	Questioning			
h) Explain to the patient why they are having compression therapy	Observation			
i) The participant can explain the causes of venous hypertension	Questioning			
j) Demonstrate understanding of the need to gain consent and maintain privacy and dignity throughout the application of	Observation			

Performance Criteria	Assessment Method	Level achieved	Date	Assessor/self assessed
compression bandaging				
k) The participant can discuss the relevance of LaPlaces Law to compression therapy	Questioning			
l) The participant demonstrates they can measure ankle circumference and explains why this should always be measured prior to application of compression bandages and the significance of the ankle circumference to the bandages applied	Observation			
m) The participant is able to explain when it is not appropriate to apply compression bandages	Questioning			
n) Discuss the difference between short stretch and long stretch bandages	Questioning			
o) Discuss what is reduced compression and why might you use this	Questioning			
p) Discuss what to do if the ulcer has not improved/healed within 8 weeks	Questioning			
q) The participant is able to demonstrate how and explain why it is important to always apply padding prior to applying compression bandaging	Observation			
r) The participant is able to demonstrate how much padding and bandage overlap is required, and what is the significance of this	Observation			
s) The participant is able to demonstrate appropriate compression bandage selection	Observation			
t) The participant is able to explain to the patient why they are having compression therapy	Observation			
u) The participant is competent in documenting wound details	Observation			

Source: tissue viability group: Leg Ulcer Guidelines

Date all elements of Competency Tool completed to level 3 _____

Name _____ Signature _____ Status _____ Date _____

I confirm that I have assessed the above named individual and
 can verify that he/she demonstrates competency in
 compression bandaging

Assessor _____ Signature _____ Status _____ Date _____

Review Dates:	Competent Yes / No	Registered Nurse Signature	Verifier signature	Comments