

The F Words

Feet & Footwear for AHAs

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Pod AHA - Background

- Podiatry service in rehabilitation
- Falls issues/footwear advice and prescription
- Wound Management and Pressure relief
- Cut toenails
- Needed help!



Falls and Footwear

- Falls risk patients into safer footwear
- Podiatrist was fitting footwear and providing advice
- AHA role – Footwear advice and provision



AHA Footwear provision

- Referral to AHA for footwear
- Advises, recommends and helps patient select shoes
- Measures and fits footwear
- Follow up and evaluation



The Footwear!



The fashionable felons...



But wait, there's more...

- Velcro extensions
- Jump rings
- Lacing techniques
- The perils of hosiery



Up-skilling in Footwear

AHA Competency standard: Conduct an Allied Health Assistant (AHA) led, adult footwear program

- On the job training
- Competency development
- Education to the new Pods
- Expanded program to community – admin and up-skilling new AHAs

Descriptor	This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required by an AHA to provide, fit and modify footwear to meet the individual needs of adult patients evaluated by the supervising podiatrist, as being suitable. It includes the maintenance and ordering of footwear stock.
Monash Health Pre-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Employee Monash Health • Grade 3 AHA • Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance • Appropriately nominated podiatrist as a clinical supervisor/assessor.
Monash Health related competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply prescribed padding, cushioning and dressings • Perform a basic foot health screen in conjunction with Low risk Nail Care
Application	<p>This unit is appropriate for application in bed based or ambulatory care services at Monash Health, where referrals for footwear fitting and provision are firstly triaged by a Podiatrist and then patients are referred to the Allied Health Assistant for footwear fitting, modification & provision.</p> <p>Provision, fit and simple modification of footwear can be delegated by the AHP to the AHA, provided the implemented tasks are within the limits established by the AHP and in line with the, Department of Health, (2012), Supervision & delegation framework for allied health assistants. The AHP should assess whether it is appropriate to delegate the task to the AHA and this may depend on the AHA's personal experience and competence and the specific context for the delegated task.</p> <p>Work performed by the AHA, requires a range of well developed skills where some discretion and judgment is required and individuals will take responsibility for their own outputs.</p>
Skills recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of HLTAH414B Support the fitting of assistive devices (or the equivalent), as part of Certificate IV in Allied health assistance, whilst relevant to the work role described, is an occupational therapy elective and completion is most likely to have been attained in that context. • Completion of Cert IV in Allied health assistance with Podiatry specialisation, would stand a candidate in good stead to meet the requirements of this standard, particularly if combined with HLTAH414B Support the fitting of assistive device(or the equivalent), but verification of skills & knowledge against this standard would still need to be made by the supervising AHP. • Prior work experience or training may be accepted to verify competence in the work role described here, but will be assessed on a case by case basis against this standard, by the line manager, clinical supervisor or an appropriate nominee.

Low Risk Toenail Management

- Low risk toenail referrals
- Clippers, rasp and blackfile
- On the job training
- Competency development



AHA Competency standard: Perform a basic foot health screen in conjunction with Low risk Toe Nail Care

Descriptor	This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required by an Allied Health assistant, to perform a basic foot health screen and provide Nail care for low risk patients referred for podiatry services.
Monash Health Pre-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Employee Monash Health • Grade 2 or 3 AHA • Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance or equivalent • Appropriately nominated podiatrist as a clinical supervisor/assessor.
Monash Health related competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply prescribed dressings, padding or pressure relief • Conduct an Allied Health Assistant (AHA) led, adult footwear program
Application	<p>This unit is appropriate for application in bed based or ambulatory care services at Monash Health, where referrals for Low risk Nail care are received by the Podiatry department and then triaged for care by the Podiatrist based on the referral information. Patients triaged by the Podiatrist as “low risk” are then referred to the AHA, who performs a basic foot health screen prior to providing nail care to appropriate patients.</p> <p>Foot screening & nail care can be delegated by the podiatrist to the AHA, provided the implemented tasks are within the limits established by the AHP and in line with the, Department of Health, (2012), Supervision & delegation framework for allied health assistants. The podiatrist should assess whether it is appropriate to delegate the task to the AHA and this may depend on the AHA’s personal experience and competence and the specific context for the delegated task.</p> <p>Work performed by the AHA, requires a range of well developed skills where some discretion and judgment is required and individuals will take responsibility for their own outputs.</p>
Skills recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Certificate IV in AHA with Podiatry specialisation, particularly completion of HLTAH404B Assist with basic foot Hygiene (or the equivalent), would stand a candidate in good stead to meet the requirements of this standard, but verification of skills & knowledge against this standard would still need to be made by the supervising Podiatrist. • Prior work experience or training may be accepted to verify competence in the work role described here, but will be assessed on a case by case basis against this standard, by the line manager, clinical supervisor or an appropriate nominee.

AHA Competency Assessment Tool: Perform a basic foot health screen in conjunction with Low risk Toe Nail Care

Candidate's Name & designation:		Assessment timeframe:	
Name(s) of Assessor(s) & designation:			
ELEMENTS & PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	Key for evidence: Written responses (WR) Oral appraisal(OA) Documentary evidence(DE) Practical demo. (Prac.D) Workplace Observation(WO) Case based presentation(CBP) RPL evidence	Min. Mandatory evidence	TICK APPROPRIATE BOX
			Date & Initial Each tick
COMPETENT			
BASIC FOOT HEALTH SCREEN			
1. Confirm suitability of patient referred for a "Basic foot health screen"			
1.1	Confirm the referred patient is appropriate for service provision by the AHA, by ensuring a written referral has been made and that the patient is assessed as "low risk" in accordance with organisational procedure		<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Defer patients back to the podiatrist when patients are not appropriate for provision of service by the AHA		<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Prepare for the "Basic foot health screen"			
2.1	Confirm all relevant information pertaining to the patient, is included in the referral, recognizing when additional information is required and act to obtain it		<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Confirm the patient understanding of the "basic foot health screen", and ensure consent has been obtained		<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3	Clarify their own role with the patient, prior to commencing the " basic foot health screen"		<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4	Prepare the setting & patient including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o gathering necessary equipment o assisting the client in & out of shoes, socks & hosiery as required o positioning the patient appropriately for screening o minimizing and removing hazards 		<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5	Undertake steps to meet infection control requirements		<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Perform the "Basic foot health screen"			
3.1	Perform a sensory screen, in accordance with the Monash Health annual basic foot health screen by AHA procedure		<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Perform an objective vascular screen, in accordance with the Monash Health annual basic foot health screen by AHA procedure		<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Perform a screen of skin integrity, in accordance with the Monash Health annual basic foot health screen by AHA procedure, noting the presence of lesions, calluses, corns		<input type="checkbox"/>

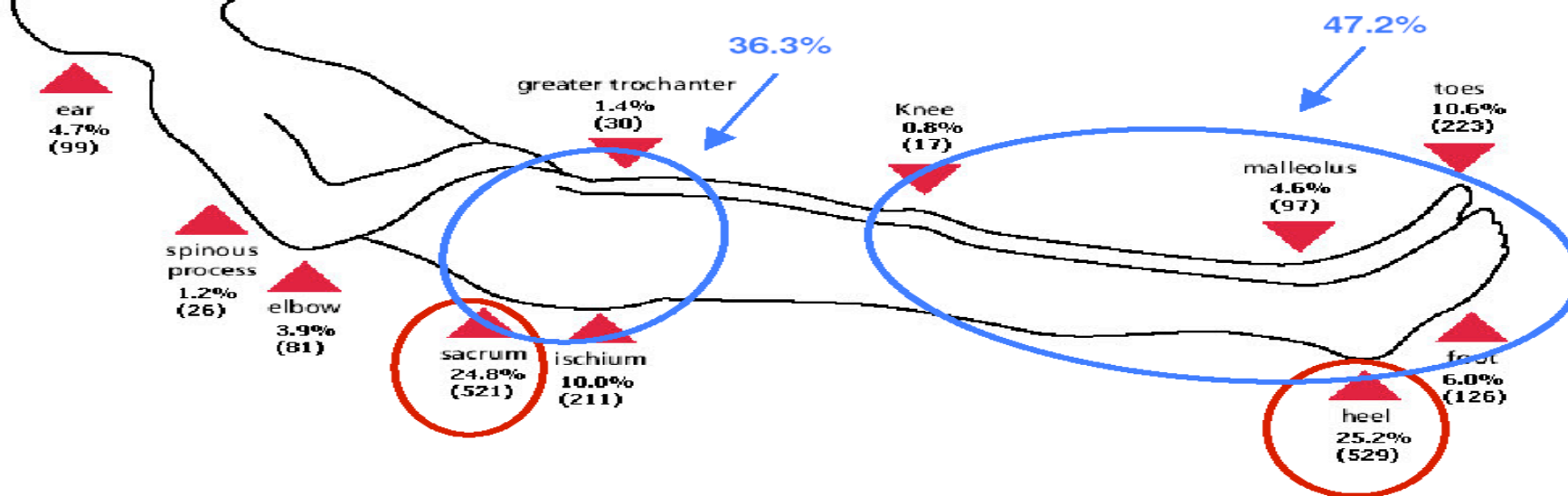
Padding and Off-loading for feet

- Provide padding or pressure relief products to offload pressure areas on feet
- Pod will have management plan
- Cuts out pads, re-issues padding or provides devices for offloading



Under Pressure

Figure 1. Anatomical distribution of pressure ulcers

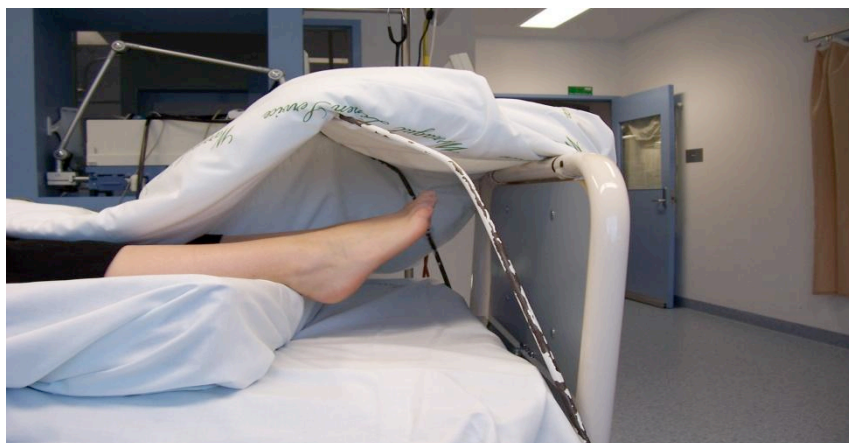


For Figure 1 all remaining locations accounted for 9.8% of pressure ulcers (n = 206).

○ Denotes two highest frequency sites

○ Denotes broad category prevalence

Pressure relief Devices



AHA Competency standard: Apply prescribed dressings, padding and pressure relief

Descriptor	This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required by an Allied Health assistant to apply dressings, padding or cushioning, under the directions of a Podiatrist
Monash Health Pre-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Employee MonashHealth • Grade 2 or 3 AHA • Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance or equivalent • Appropriately nominated podiatrist as a clinical supervisor/assessor.
Monash Health related competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an Allied Health Assistant (AHA) led, adult footwear program • Perform a basic foot health screen in conjunction with low risk nail care.
Application	<p>This unit is appropriate for application in bed based or ambulatory care services at Monash Health, where an individualised assessment & management plan have been developed by the Podiatrist. Once established, aspects of this plan can be delegated by the Podiatrist to the AHA, including the (re)application of dressings, padding or cushioning. Wound management cannot be delegated to an AHA.</p> <p>(Re)applying dressings, padding and pressure relief, can be delegated by the podiatrist to the AHA, provided the implemented tasks are within the limits established by the AHP and in line with the, Department of Health, (2012), Supervision & delegation framework for allied health assistants. The podiatrist should assess whether it is appropriate to delegate the task to the AHA and this may depend on the AHA's personal experience and competence and the specific context for the delegated task.</p> <p>Work performed by the AHA, requires a range of well developed skills where some discretion and judgment is required and individuals will take responsibility for their own outputs.</p>
Skills recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Certificate IV in AHA with Podiatry specialisation, particularly completion of HLTAH404B Assist with basic foot Hygiene (or the equivalent), would stand a candidate in good stead to meet the requirements of this standard, but verification of skills & knowledge against this standard would still need to be made by the supervising Podiatrist. • Prior work experience or training may be accepted to verify competence in the work role described here, but will be assessed on a case by case basis against this standard, by the line manager, clinical supervisor or an appropriate nominee.

AHA Competency Assessment Tool: Apply prescribed dressings, padding and pressure relief

Candidate's Name & designation:		Assessment timeframe:		
Name(s) of Assessor(s) & designation:				
ELEMENTS & PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	Key for evidence: Written responses (WR) Oral appraisal(OA) Documentary evidence(DE) Practical demo. (Prac.D) Workplace Observation(WO) Case based presentation(CBP) RPL evidence	Min. Mandatory evidence	TICK APPROPRIATE BOX Date & Initial Each tick	
			COMPETENT	NOT YET COMPETENT
1.Prepare for the application of dressing, padding or pressure relief				
1.1 Confirm all <i>relevant information pertaining to the patient</i> , is included in the referral, recognizing when additional information is required and act to obtain it			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Confirm the patient understanding of the dressing, padding or <i>pressure relief</i> application and ensure consent has been obtained			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Clarify their own role with the patient, prior to commencing the treatment			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Prepare the setting & patient for the application of dressing, padding & cushioning, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gathering necessary equipment • assisting the client in & out of shoes, socks & hosiery as required • correctly positioning the patient • minimizing and removing hazards 			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.5 Undertake steps to meet <i>infection control measures</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Apply dressings, padding or pressure relief				
2.1 Apply dressing, padding or pressure relief according to directions of the podiatrist to a range of patient conditions			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Provide feedback that reinforces the podiatrist's advice			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Implement necessary <i>infection control measures</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Identify and manage client compliance issues			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5 Seek assistance when client presents with needs or signs outside limits of own authority.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.6 Work with client to determine and plan any follow up requirements and dates			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you measure up?

- Brannock and shoes time!
- Lets do donuts
- Under pressure – time to off-load



Thank you!

