

## Appendix A: Blood glucose monitoring clinical competency

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Role:</b>
<b>Base:</b>	<b>Date initial training completed:</b>

### Competency Statement:

The participant demonstrates clinical knowledge and skill in blood glucose monitoring without assistance and/or direct supervision (level 3 - see level descriptors). Assessment in practice must be by a Registered Health Care Professional who can demonstrate competence at level 4 or above.

Performance criteria	Assessment method	Level achieved	Date	Assessor/self-assessed
<b>1. The participant will be able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills to perform blood glucose monitoring.</b>				
a) The reason for the patient needing blood glucose monitoring.	Questioning			
b) The limitations of using a blood glucose meter.	Questioning			
c) The rationale for calibrating meter, ensuring test strips are in date, performing internal Quality Control (QC) and external Quality Assurance (QA)	Questioning			
d) Correct method to obtain blood sample.	Questioning			
e) Significance of test results and how to interpret.	Questioning			
f) When it is necessary to refer to a GP or the diabetes nurse specialist.	Questioning			
<b>2. The participant will be able to demonstrate practical skills in blood glucose monitoring.</b>				
a) How to ensure accuracy of meter by demonstrating internal quality control (QC) check	Observation			
b) Correct calibration procedure if needed for meter.	Observation			
c) How to operate the meter.	Observation			
d) Correct procedure for skin preparation.	Observation			
e) Correct method to obtain blood sample.	Observation			

f) Practices in accordance with Trust Infection Control Policy and Sharps Inoculation and Management Policy to avoid needle stick injury.	Observation			
g) Practices in accordance with Trust Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Hand Hygiene Procedure and Standard Precautions Procedure to avoid contamination and cross infection.	Observation			
h) Interprets and actions results in accordance with role and responsibilities.	Observation			
i) Documents all care given in accordance with Trust policy & procedures.	Observation			

Source: SHFT Blood Glucose Monitoring Protocolv3 SH CP158

**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 blood glucose monitoring.

**Assessor:** ..... **Signature:** .....

**Status:** ..... **Date:** .....

Review dates	Competent (yes/no)	Healthcare Professional/ Assessor signature	Verifier signature	Comments

### Levels of competency rating scale

	Level of achievement	Level
Novice	Cannot perform this activity satisfactorily to the level required in order to participate in the clinical environment	0
↓	Can perform this activity but not without constant supervision and assistance	1
	Can perform this activity with a basic understanding of theory and practice principles, but requires some supervision and assistance	2
<b>Competent Practitioner</b>	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision	3
↓	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice  At this level competence will have been maintained for at least 6 months and/or is used frequently (2-3 times /week) The practitioner will demonstrate confidence and proficiency and show fluency and dexterity in practice <b>This is the minimum level required to be able to assess practitioners as competent</b>	4
	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice.	5
	At this level the practitioner will be able to adapt knowledge and skill to special/ novel situations where there maybe increased levels of complexity and/or risk	
Expert	Can perform this activity with understanding of theory and practice principles without assistance and/or direct supervision, at an appropriate pace and adhering to evidence based practice. Demonstrate initiative and adaptability to special problem situations, and can lead others in performing this activity  At this level the practitioner is able to co-ordinate, lead and assess others who are assessing competence. Ideally they will have a teaching and /or mentor qualification	6

Adapted from: Herman GD, Kenyon RJ (1987) Competency-Based Vocational Education. A Case Study, Shaftsbury, FEU, Blackmore Press, cited in Fearon, M. (1998) Assessment and measurement of competence in practice, *Nursing Standard* 12(22), pp43-47.

